

Clarke to take campaign trail for inner cities

Breakfast talks aim at luring private investors

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister's team of ministers responsible for the inner cities is taking to the road in a new attempt to boost the role of the private sector in urban regeneration.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Trade and Industry and the newly appointed inner cities supremo, is planning a series of "breakfast roadshows" across the country to put over the Government's case.

Industrialists, senior members of local authorities, construction companies and other potential investors will be invited to early-morning conferences.

At these sessions Mr Clarke

and his colleagues in the other government departments will explain the action taken by the Government to promote urban renewal, its plans for the future and the possibilities for private companies to become involved.

The other ministers involved are expected to be Mr David Trippier, Under-Secretary for the Environment, and Mr John Cope, Minister of State for Employment.

Presentations, involving videos and commentaries by the ministers, will be delivered over the next few months in places such as Newcastle upon Tyne, Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, Liverpool, Hull, Birmingham, Nottingham, Bristol, Plymouth and London.

They will display "before and after" films of areas such as the London Docklands where the Government has set up urban development corporations, and where private companies have benefited.

Ministers involved in all departments which touch on the inner cities — about £2 billion is to be devoted to a set of interlocking schemes across five departments — are enthusiastic about Mr Clarke's appointment.

The Department of the Environment, which spends more than £300 million a year on the inner cities, had hoped to be the lead ministry.

But sources there are already pointing to the close co-

A senior government source said yesterday: "We need to show examples of what we have done and how we have reduced unemployment in particular targeted areas. We want to be sure that our message is getting across. At present we are not convinced that it is."

The roadshows will be similar to the "action for jobs" events organized by Lord Young of Grafton, who was then Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Clarke in the big cities before the last general election. They will usually take place between 8 and 9am.

After the months of internal Whitehall bickering that took place before Mr Clarke's appointment, ministers at both the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of the Environment are anxious to play down suggestions of rivalry.

A DoE source said yesterday: "We would have preferred the inner cities chief to be in this department, no question. But now we must make a success of it."

Mr Clarke's appointment was seen as heralding a shift towards a greater emphasis on enterprise and jobs in the inner cities away from the large-scale land reclamation projects sponsored by the DoE.

Final responsibility for the Government's inner city policy nevertheless rests with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who will continue to chair a committee of senior ministers on the issue.

Mr Clarke made clear on his appointment that his priority was to accelerate the involvement of the private sector in urban renewal.

He said: "The biggest change since the election has been the growing interest of the private sector in working with us. I intend to build on the contacts I have already developed."

Earlier this month the Government announced four new mini urban development corporations in Bristol, Wolverhampton, Leeds and Manchester as part of a £60 million package.

The Prime Minister, since her election night pledge on the inner cities, has been keen to attract greater private sector involvement.

The roadshows are one of the means chosen to enthuse industry about the Government's plans.

Mrs Thatcher fears that hopes of reviving run-down city areas will not be realized without the involvement of powerful private concerns in the crusade.



Mr Clarke: A strategy of regeneration for cities.

operation between Mr Clarke and Mr Trippier, who is a personal friend and was once Mr Clarke's parliamentary private secretary.

The two ministers have already discussed the "action for cities" roadshow programme, which is expected to start in February.

Large companies will be encouraged to second their staff to the Government's task forces and enterprise agencies which are being set up in the cities after the Prime Minister's post-election pledge to tackle inner city deprivation.

Afghans claim to have lifted siege of Khost

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Afghan Government last night claimed to have lifted the siege of Khost, a city encircled by Mujahidin guerrillas since 1978, after an offensive by Soviet and Afghan troops.

No confirmation of the claim, broadcast on Kabul Radio, was available from Western sources, but if true it would be a morale-booster for embattled Soviet forces on the eighth anniversary of Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan.

The three-week offensive

has been described by Western diplomats as one of the largest battles since Soviet troops occupied Kabul on December 27, 1979.

London protest: Police battled to stop about 1,000 anti-Soviet protesters from marching on the Russian Embassy in London yesterday.

Officers fought to hold back the angry crowd as they marched past the private road leading to the embassy. One man was arrested.

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Radio ham saves crew of cargo ship in Atlantic



Mr Robert Watters: "I was glad to be able to help."

A radio ham saved the lives of 14 seamen, after breaking off his Christmas celebrations yesterday to listen to his set.

Mr Robert Watters had just clamped his carphones on when he heard a voice say: "My cargo has shifted. I need immediate assistance. We will probably have to abandon ship."

Mr Watters noted the position of the ship, 700 miles out in the Atlantic from his home in St Stephen, near St Austell, Cornwall. He alerted coastguards and within minutes a full scale rescue operation was underway to save the crew of the 2,523-ton Panamanian-registered freighter Island Queen. It was carrying timber to Liverpool from New York.

Mr Watters, a bachelor aged 43, said: "I felt sure other people would know about the ship being in trouble but just as

a double check I decided to telephone the coastguards. I was really surprised when they said they had not heard anything, especially as my equipment cost about £500 and they have millions of pounds worth of gear.

"I have never been involved in anything like this before and the best part of it is that all the crew were saved. I will never meet them but they are someone's husband or brother and conditions were so bad out there they would not have had a hope in hell of surviving without help."

Mr Watters may only listen to his radio, because he is not licensed to transmit. "But it's a great hobby and when there is trouble at sea minutes are vital so I'm glad I was able to play my part", he said.

Coastguards at Falmouth, Cornwall

'Bring rackets, golf clubs and walking shoes'

No snow for the Alpine skiers

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Alpine skiing resorts in Europe, sweltering in unseasonal and unsporting warm weather conditions, are advising holidaymakers to "bring your tennis rackets, golf clubs and walking shoes."

The conditions have already caused several deaths. Two Edinburgh men, Mr Alan Webb and Mr Stephen Bottrell, both aged 18, were killed at Val d'Isère. Police said they had gone off the marked piste in a couloir and over a ridge, falling 300 ft.

In the Flims area of the Grisons, Herr Thomas Wiggand, aged 25, and Dietmar Schaubert, aged 11, both West Germans, died almost at the same spot after leaving the prepared piste and hitting rocks. In Valais, at least 15 people were injured in falls, some due to insufficient snow cover.

With continuing sunny and mild weather forecast until at least the weekend, many resorts are being forced to maintain their "crisis" programmes of alternative diversions to compensate disappointed skiers for the lack of snow.

The picture throughout the mountains, in Switzerland, France, Austria and Italy is similar: ski runs are practicable to good only above the 5,500 ft level, and even some of those are heavy going by afternoon. So thoroughly green was Christmas that Swiss television news presenters accompanied pictures of deep snow in Arizona with "so there's the place to go for cross country skiing, around the cacti".

Would-be skiers disinclined to venture on to the high glaciers have made the best of it by acquiring sunbans on mountain rambles, for which cut-price ski-lift tickets are an

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And in Britain: 13 degrees above normal

Britain is enjoying one of its warmest winter holidays, with insufficient snow in Scotland for skiing, above-freezing temperatures on mountain tops, and jellified reported off the North Wales coast.

Several places in south-west and central England reported temperatures yesterday of 56°F (13°C), 13 degrees above the seasonal average.

Scotland's spring-like weather meant no skiing and the bad news for winter sports fans was that the warm weather will last the week.



Ascending hopes: Two skiers taking a chair-lift in Visp, Switzerland, in search of snow.

Government to rebuff Labour over MI6 book

By Michael Evans and Philip Webster

The Government is unlikely to take action against a former member of MI6, the secret intelligence service, who published his memoirs privately and distributed 300 copies to friends and MPs.

Ministers deplored the breach of confidentiality. However, government sources indicated last night that it would be unlikely to take "retrospective action" against Mr Anthony Cavendish over his "Christmas card memoirs".

Last night the Labour Party issued a challenge to the Government either to take action or abandon all moves to suppress Mr Peter Wright's *Spycatcher* memoirs.

If it failed to act against Mr Cavendish, its action against Mr Wright would be exposed as a "vindictive vendetta", Mr George Foulkes, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, said.

Ministers are widely believed to be considering the imposition of a lifetime duty of confidentiality upon former MI6 staff as part of their own legislation to reform the Official Secrets Act, expected to be introduced later this Parliament.

Failure to try to stop the Cavendish memoirs will be

Secrets' cases

used by both Labour and Conservative opponents to highlight the inconsistencies of the Government's stance.

Mr Cavendish, who left MI6 in 1953, has been trying to publish his book *Inside Intelligence*, to defend the reputation of his former friend and colleague, the late Sir Maurice Oldfield, ex-MI6 chief and Security Co-ordinator for Mrs Thatcher in Northern Ireland.

The book contains many

references to Sir Maurice, disputing allegations that he had homosexual relations with young men while he was a senior security chief. It also details past MI6 covert operations, authorized by the Labour Government in the 1950s, which have been published in other books.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Cabinet Office, which is responsible for vetting all books written by past members of MI5 and MI6, said that the Government "deplored" the breach of confidentiality.

One Whitehall source admitted that Mr Cavendish had not been involved in intelligence work for a long time and that the book contained nothing very sensitive.

However, publication of the book, sent to 500 people as a "Christmas card", is a serious embarrassment to the Government.

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Time-off scheme to woo pitmen

By Tim Jones

British Coal is challenging Mr Arthur Scargill's total resistance to "new realism" head-on by offering South Wales miners 16 weeks off a year.

The initiative comes as the battle for the presidency of the National Union of Mine-workers grows more bitter.

The offer to give the miners more continuous leisure time than any other section of the British workforce depends on the acceptance by the South Wales union leadership of six-day working for the proposed new £90 million "superpit" at Margam, designed to provide coal for the huge Port Talbot steel plant.

Under the plan, which is being studied by the local area leadership, miners would work three weeks of six shifts followed by one week off. In addition, they would still be entitled to their annual leave of five weeks' holiday. The number of hours worked in a year would not change: production workers would still be on the equivalent of a 37.5 hour week.

British Coal has said that without six-day working to use expensive plant, investment of more than £700 million in new projects cannot go ahead.

The South Wales leadership is now in a state of almost open war with Mr Scargill, in spite of its traditional loyalty to the national union.

Mr Des Duffield, the South Wales president, and his officials are known to be anxious at least to talk to British Coal on the principle of six-day working.

Mr Scargill will strengthen his argument against the move by claiming that it is yet another ploy by the corporation to divide the union.

The South Wales miners fear that if they follow Mr Scargill's hardline stance against the move, the Margam development will be stillborn and other marginally economic deep pits in the area will be at risk.

Mr Scargill sees the five-day week as sacrosanct.

The South Wales leadership has tried and failed to have the election of the union's national president declared void on constitutional grounds and has demonstrated its mistrust of Mr Scargill by refusing to nominate him for the presidency.

Mr Scargill is due to visit South Wales 10 days before the election, fixed for January 22.

He said at the weekend that he had been banned from addressing his members at British Coal's miners' insurance department offices in Sheffield because the corporation said it would disrupt work.

Crisis in the Gulf

Fahd hints at outside help

By Our Foreign Staff

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia last night hinted that Gulf states might be forced to seek foreign protection, possibly from the United States, if Iran continued to attack their countries and shipping.

His warning to Tehran came as the Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, met Colonel Gadhafi in Libya to discuss closer links between their countries.

King Fahd told the opening session of the Gulf Co-operation Council meeting in Riyadh that the six nations of the council — Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia — all sought a peaceful solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

But he declared what he said was Iran's intransigence on peace terms. "Why does Iran not listen to the voice of reason to end the war?" he asked. "Power alone will not be a solution ... because

every country can defend itself in any way, even by asking for help from other countries to defend itself."

It was the council's most open declaration that it may seek foreign help if attacked by Iran. Saudi Arabia, by far the largest of the council nations, has a population of about seven million. Iran has a

Whitehall rejects claim: 5

population of more than 45 million and a military contest would be topside.

Oman and the United Arab Emirates are both known to favour a more conciliatory approach to Iran, but this is rejected by the Saudis and Kuwait as fruitless.

The possible need of outside help was a strong factor in the council's attempt during the Arab summit meeting in Amman for restored relations with Egypt. Only Egypt among

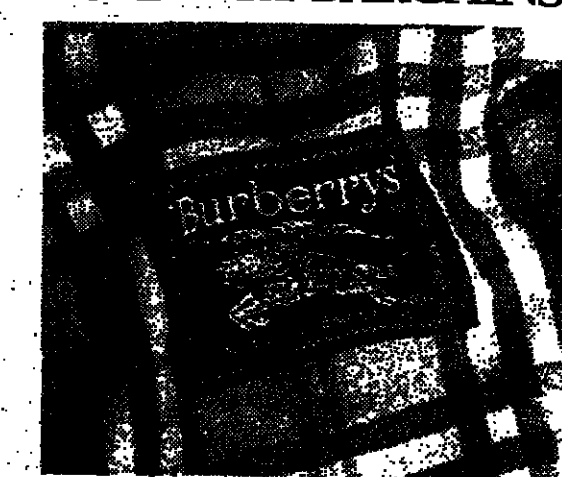
the Arab countries has sufficient manpower to provide extra troops to help to protect the council states. Saudi Arabia's Pakistani mercenaries are leaving, which creates a military void that the Egyptians could conceivably fill.

Another possible foreign ally is the United States. Kuwait has already drawn the Americans into the Gulf conflict by refuelling its tankers to secure US Navy protection.

But the main desire, as King Fahd said, is to avoid military confrontation. He urged the United Nations Security Council to pass a follow-up to Resolution 598, which stated that the country refusing to accept a ceasefire would be subject to an arms embargo.

In Tripoli yesterday, Dr Velayati and Colonel Gadhafi discussed strengthening their relations and the critical situation in the Gulf.

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Sale starts today - Open until 7pm

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Trench style weatherproofs	£285.00	£200.00
Men's blouses	£110.00	£79.50
Shirts	£36.50	£19.50
Silk Ties	£16.50	£9.00

FOR WOMEN	Price when perfect	Special price
Classic style weatherproofs	£200.00	£145.00
Trench style weatherproofs	£270.00	£195.00
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NEWS ROUNDUP

Militant threat to Whitehall union

The Civil and Public Services Association, the biggest Whitehall union, is heading for a constitutional crisis this week as its members receive a Militant Tendency-backed circular demanding that one of its supporters be appointed head of organization.

The circular argues that Mr Kevin Roddy is entitled to take up the post because he has the backing of a majority of the hard left national executive committee.

Mr John Ellis, the union's moderate general secretary, and his officials see it as part of a Militant strategy, backed by Mr John Macreadie, the union's deputy general secretary, to place its supporters in powerful positions before fresh executive elections in March.

Last night, Mr Barry Reamsbottom, editor of the CPUSA journal, *Red Tape*, said the move was "totally unauthorized" and would cost the hard pressed union at least £6,000.

Scotch on Two clues to the rocks

The tiny Hebridean island of Eriskay, made famous by the book and film *Whisky Galore*, opens its first public house in the new year.

The inn is called Am Politeach, after the SS Politician which foundered in Eriskay Sound in 1941 with 24,000 cases of whisky aboard. Islanders' efforts to remove the cargo despite the attentions of HM Customs and Excise inspired the novel by Sir Compton Mackenzie.

When the doors open on February 4 a bottle of whisky salvaged from the wreck will be on display.

Two clues to victim

A tiny metal clip and a set of false teeth are the best leads Scotland Yard detectives have to unravel the mystery of the identity of the thirty-first and final victim of last month's King's Cross Underground fire, a slim man, 5ft 2ins tall and aged about 50.

After police eliminated possible leads from all of the 10,500 anxious relatives and friends who phoned special telephone numbers after the fire and after they combed missing person files, the search has been narrowed to a tourist or someone with few friends or relatives.

Test-tube thousand

Mr Patrick Steptoe and Professor Robert Edwards, the British test-tube baby pioneers, yesterday announced the birth of their clinic's one thousandth baby.

The child, a boy, was born at the Bourn Hall clinic, near Cambridge, on Boxing Day and was yesterday said to be doing well. The parents are believed to come from the north of England. Bourn Hall was set up shortly after the birth of the world's first test-tube baby, Louise Brown, in July 1978 at Oldham and District General Hospital, after fertilization in Mr Steptoe's laboratories in Oldham, where he was a consultant, and transplantation two and a half days later into the mother's womb.

Pheasant Trapped for 6 days

The Duke of Edinburgh has ordered a reduction in the number of pheasant-shoots during the Royal Family's six-week holiday at Sandringham, which begins tomorrow.

Usually there would be up to 20 shoots on the 20,000-acre royal estate but they are to be reduced to conserve stocks because of a shortage of birds.

Last year more than 7,000 pheasants were shot but this season's total will be well down. A wet breeding season meant that many pheasant chicks died.

Boxing Day success

Sales of *The Times* for its first Boxing Day publication were said yesterday to have been exceptional.

The normal print run of 530,000 was increased to 700,000 to cope with demand. The other newspapers published in an initiative by News International, *Today* and *The Sun*, also sold briskly, with customers queuing in some shops to obtain their copies. Mr Brian Horwhite, the circulation director for News International, said: "It has been a great success".

Farmers join water argument

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

The National Farmers' Union will tomorrow enter what is becoming an increasingly acrimonious debate about the quality of water supply and who will be responsible for safeguarding it.

The Government recently bowed to pressure from a wide range of interests by announcing that it planned to establish a National Rivers Authority to supervise and monitor the activities of the water authorities in England and Wales after they are privatized, probably in the summer of 1989.

The present water authorities, led by Mr Roy Wait, chairman of Thames Water, fought the idea from the outset, claiming that the so-called integrated river basin management had served the country well and that the new authority would be an expensive and unnecessary bureaucracy.

Environmentalists also dispute the claim that the quality of British drinking water is among the best in the world.

The main argument, and the subject of the NEU paper tomorrow, is nitrate levels, which in certain areas exceed the EEC limit of 50 parts per million.

British authorities say that there is only a tenuous and unproven link between nitrate intake and diseases such as stomach cancer and blue baby syndrome.

But the bill for installing equipment for removing the nitrates is estimated at between £200 million and £600 million.

The Government has put forward the idea of water protection zones where the problem of nitrates leaking from farm land is most acute, and where farmers will be compensated for restricting their use of fertilizers.

Labour's year, says Gould

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Bryan Gould, the Labour MP for Dagenham, yesterday described 1987 as a year in which the political landscape had shifted fundamentally in Labour's favour.

Mr Gould, who has risen rapidly in the party's hierarchy during the past 12 months, said 1987 had demonstrated that Thatcherism was now out of time with events and that 1988 would be a year of opportunity for Labour.

In a new year's message to his constituents, Mr Gould said 1987 had shown that "corner shop economics" had had its day. The stock market crash demonstrated that markets could not be trusted to provide the right answers.

He also said that in 1987 Britain had reverted to two-party politics, with the Alliance so badly split into three factions it opened up the prospect of by-elections in 1988 where "the Alliance finishes not only third but fourth and fifth as well".

Mr Gould's comments came as the first open signs of misgivings about Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership of the party were voiced.

In a newsletter, published by Forward Labour, sent to union leaders Mr Kinnock was accused of "basking in the satisfaction of a new image". Mr David Warburton, principal national officer of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, complained that since the election Mr Kinnock had made no major speech nor taken initiatives on any of a whole range of targets.

"The argument that Neil is playing low key because of the need to develop the policy review is either an excuse for bad advice or an excuse for lethargy", he wrote.

Rigorous testing to assess the worth of plane

BA ponders future of jet it did not order

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

British Airways is to subject three new Airbus A320 jets to six months' intensive operations on both scheduled and charter flights.

The twin engine jets are among 10 ordered by British Caledonian before it agreed to merge with BA and are due for delivery next year. If the A320s do not meet expectations, BA is ready to sell them all, possibly to a Canadian airline. If they are judged a success, BA would consider buying 10 more.

B-Cal was the first to order the revolutionary "fly by wire" jets and negotiated a special price of only 340 million dollars for all 10.

Since then airlines around the world have shown a big interest in the aircraft, whose wings are made by British Aerospace. Prices have risen and further deliveries cannot be guaranteed for several years.

BA is undecided whether it wants any Airbus jets in its fleet which is predominantly Boeing. It argues that the aircraft, with 152 seats, may be too big for some routes and too small for others. An expensive new engineering and maintenance base would be needed.

B-Cal, however, signed a £4-million contract with Redwing, BA's holiday subsidiary, to supply 85,000 seats on the aircraft to six holiday areas next summer before the airlines agreed to merge. The A320s will fly daily throughout the summer on charter and scheduled operations.

The first of the three is due for delivery in March and Airbus will be asked to repaint it in British Airways colours, removing the B-Cal logo in which it is making test flights from the Airbus headquarters in Toulouse.

When it arrives at Gatwick the aircraft will be operated by British Airways crews partly on

shuttle routes to Glasgow and Edinburgh and partly in fulfilling the charter contract to Redwing.

If BA is impressed by the performance, it will put pressure on Airbus Industrie both to sell it more aircraft of the same type for the price B-Cal paid. The airline will also try to keep the price of the four-engine sister plane, the A340, at rock bottom.

BA will argue that if it cannot buy more A320s at a low price it will not even look at the Western jet and will sell the A320s to Pacific Western or Wardair, two Canadian airlines ready to do business.

The move will put Airbus in a delicate position. Since the B-Cal deal was signed the dollar has fallen against the pound and American aircraft manufacturers and the US government have criticized what they regard as unfair European trading practices in selling

aircraft for less than cost. British Aerospace has complained that unless Airbus achieves a realistic price, it will not make any profit out of supplying the wings.

Airbus had high hopes that B-Cal, by using the A320s on its scheduled services as well as on charter holiday flights, would set a new standard of operating efficiency and passenger appeal which would put pressure on other airlines to place more orders for A320s.

A holiday price war has broken out among tour operators as they try to convince tourists to book early for the summer.

Horizon said it was reducing prices by as much as £29 for hundreds of thousands of holidays. It was also taking £25 off self-catering holidays and offering shopping vouchers to customers booking before May.

Thomas Cook announced it was cutting the price of three million holidays.

Scotland worst in breath test arrests

By Tony Dawe and Kerry Gill

Hundreds of drivers have been caught in police breath tests over the Christmas holiday in spite of the Government's campaign warning motorists against drinking and driving.

The worst area, according to the limited figures available last night was Strathclyde, which includes Glasgow, where police reported that 58 drivers had proved positive in breath tests on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

North Wales police covering a more sparsely populated region reported 27 positive breath tests on the same days. Sussex police, who run one of the toughest campaigns against drinking and driving, caught 21 motorists on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The figures will prove a bitter disappointment to chief constables and to Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Transport, who is heading the government campaign.

But they will take heart from the drop of 25 per cent in road accidents involving injury in the past week.

Mr Peter Joslin, chief constable of Warwickshire and secretary of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said the injury accident figures are a more reliable indicator of motorists' behaviour.

Figures published on Christmas Eve showed a drop, from 1,689 to 1,655, in the number of positive breath tests in England and Wales in the first four days of last week.

The BBC said yesterday that it will continue the Radio 1 campaign warning young people of the dangers of drinking and driving until the new year.

A Christmas promotion by the Beefeater Steak Houses chain offering drivers free drink vouchers to spend at its restaurants near petrol stations was withdrawn last night after complaints from police.



Mr Anthony Cavendish, the former MI6 officer, whose book *Inside Intelligence* defends the late Sir Maurice Oldfield.

Action unlikely over new MI6 book

Continued from page 1

ernment because of its continuing battle over *Spycatcher*.

It also emerged yesterday that the Cabinet Office had approved for publication a book called *British and American Approaches to Intelligence* which contains chapters written by two former MI6 officers, Mr Robert Cecil and Mr John Bruce Lockhart. The book is a collection of lectures on intelligence given by experts at a conference held by the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in 1984.

Yesterday the Cabinet Office said that the lectures had been "cleared" in 1984. Publication of the book was therefore properly sanctioned.

The Cabinet Office said that former members of the intelligence services were not banned from writing books. They had a duty to submit anything for clearance. The RUSI contributions by Mr

Cecil and Mr Bruce Lockhart were not changed in any way by the Cabinet Office.

Mr Cavendish's 160-page paperback was sent for checking to his past employers at Century House, the MI6 London headquarters. It was also read by Sir John Bailey, the Treasury Solicitor, who informed the publishers, Cassell, that five chapters would have to be removed. Cassell decided against publication.

The Cabinet Office said yesterday: "Cassell accepted the Government's argument against publication".

Mr Cavendish, who is a merchant banker, told Century House that he was still determined to press ahead with publication in some form. Five weeks ago he set up his own company, Palu Publishing.

Yesterday Mr Cavendish said: "The whole reason for my book was to defend Mau-

rice Oldfield. There are no secrets in it and I wasn't writing it for financial gain. I made it clear that if the book was published any profits would go to the Century House Benevolent Fund.

"Peter Wright's book was entirely different. It was a disgraceful book, written for money and it has tainted the rest of us."

Mr Cavendish began to write his book three years ago when he heard that two Fleet Street journalists were researching a book on Sir Maurice Oldfield. Nothing was published but earlier this year Mr Chapman Pincher made new allegations of homosexuality involving Sir Maurice in a book which prompted Mr Cavendish to complete his own book "in a hurry".

Yesterday Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, one of the 500 recipients of Mr Cavendish's book, said: "The book is a superbly written and

moving defence of an old friend. I met Sir Maurice and I had a high regard for him."

Mr Foulkes said: "I issue this challenge directly and personally to Mrs Thatcher either to take action on this book or abandon all the Government's actions against *Spycatcher*; otherwise they are a vindictive vendetta."

"If there is an issue of principle involved, and that is what the Government persists in maintaining, then that must apply to every case where an ex-intelligence officer publishes, however old his secrets are."

Mr Julian Amery, Conservative MP for Brighton, Pavilion, who also received a copy of Mr Cavendish's book, declined to comment on the book itself but said that the Government's attitude towards publications by intelligence agents as "wildly overdone".

Security link slim in secrets Act cases

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

The Government has revealed that 23 court cases have been brought under the all-embracing Section Two of the Official Secrets Act in the past 10 years - many concerning alleged offences that did not directly involve matters of national security.

Ministers hope to produce a White Paper in the spring which will try to reform Section Two. Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, has made it clear he wants to restrict Section Two to defence and intelligence matters.

The 23 cases listed by the Attorney General's office include:

- An information officer with the Central Office of Information who failed to take reasonable care of a number of confidential briefs prepared for the UK delegate attending a ministerial meeting in Brussels.
- A former employee at the British high commission in Bangladesh who took home confidential material because of pressure of work. He was fined £1,200.
- A civilian terminal operator on the police national computer who disclosed locations of burglaries to a burglar alarm company. He was fined £200.
- A clerk in the Department of Health and Social Security who gave personal information about claims made by the husband of a local councillor to a rival councillor. Both the clerk and the rival councillor received suspended sentences.
- A journalist who obtained police documents about a suspect from an unidentified source. He was charged with unlawfully receiving a document knowing or having reasonable ground to believe that it was in contravention of the Official Secrets Act. The judge upheld the defence submission that there was no case to answer.

Surgeon MP's NHS plea

By Kerry Gill

One of Britain's most senior consultant neurosurgeons, Mr Sam Galbraith, who is now a back bench Labour MP, has called on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, to inject a further 2p in the pound into the National Health Service.

Instead of a cut from 27p to 25p in the pound, Mr Galbraith said income tax should stay at least at its present level and the equivalent of the proposed cut spent on the NHS.

An increase of that level would significantly cut hospital waiting lists which he said were a national scandal.

Mr Galbraith, who has been a consultant neurosurgeon for the past 10 years at the Institute of Neurological Sciences at Glasgow's Southern General Hospital, took the Parliamentary seat of Strathkelvin and Bearsden from the Tories last June.

Mr Galbraith has decided to fight for the National Health Service.

Service from the ranks of the Opposition backbenchers.

His experience as a doctor has included senior posts in the United States where his interest in politics emerged.

Totally against any form of private medicine, he said: "Serious illnesses in women are going undetected because of the dismissive attitude of doctors, a health campaigner claimed yesterday."

Miss Margaret Wilde, a vice president of the College of Health, said women are often told their problems are in their mind, and given anti-depressants rather than an examination. She is preparing a report for the Equal Opportunities Commission and wants health care to be under their remit.

"Their medical and political system made me realise it must never happen here. Private medicine is grossly inefficient and leads to an awful two-tier system of health care."

Mr Galbraith believes the public will be prepared to pay "whatever it necessarily takes" to run an efficient national health service.

The idea of cutting taxation, as envisaged by Mr Lawson, is anathema to Mr Galbraith while the health service's future is in jeopardy.

He said it was his aim to make sure that private medicine reaped no special advantages and any use it made of the NHS should be chargeable.

Even pay bands within the NHS should be abolished. He admitted that there would always be people rich enough to opt for private treatment, but said the private sector must never be subsidised by the NHS.

"Health care in the non-state sector is grossly inefficient. Our waiting lists are a national scandal."

The injection of another 2p in the pound, he said, could well rid the NHS of this scandal.

Alpine skiers miss out as snows fail to show

Continued from page 1

inducement. But not many are as cheerful as one middle-aged Dutch visitor to Verbier, "dragged here year after year by the family for skiing" as he put it. He cheerfully remarked: "Well, now I can have a real holiday."

The stock phrase at leading resorts, including Cortina d'Ampezzo in Italy, has become "higher up, the snow is excellent" - this being generally a reference to the maximum height attainable by cable car or chair-lift. Kitzbühel (Austria, 6,440 ft) was frank enough to admit "a few more days of this and we'll be out of skiable runs".

Some glaciers, as on the Mont Geneve above Verbier, were excessively overcrowded yesterday. "It was a case of skiing for 10 minutes, then waiting 45 minutes to get back up on the lift," said Mr Babak Hashemi, from Kensington, London. "It's very, very disappointing."

"But the weather is otherwise superb and the Verbier restaurants and nightspots are excellent. Nice crowd of young people, well behaved. Much better than some of the other places I've been to."

At the French "super stations", such as Tignes and Isola 2,000, conditions were classed as satisfactory. But in Austria, precautionary quotas were put on the numbers of skiers going high up at Kitzbühel and Schmettenhöhe. While some hoteliers are using "unprecedented" in apologizing to their clients for the missing essential, Christmas in the Alps has in fact often been seriously short of snow these recent years, except last December when, for once, everybody's hopes were fulfilled.

More and more resorts are being forced to the conclusion, accordingly, that reliance, for the Christmas season anyway, must in future be put on artificial snow.

Low-paid may get homes aid

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Ministers are studying plans to help low-paid workers in high-price housing areas with their mortgage payments.

In a move to increase mobility in the labour market, ministers are considering ways of tackling the wide disparity in house prices between the North and South.

They are concerned that rising property prices in London and the South-east are driving people on average and low incomes out of London but at the same time making it impossible for people in high employment areas to move in.

Ministers are speaking favourably of the scheme introduced earlier this month by the Nationwide Anglia building society under which health workers would be eligible for 100 per cent mortgages at two-thirds of the usual interest rate.

The society would take a stake of the profits on the property when it is sold.

Ministers hope that the scheme could be extended to other key workers, such as teachers, in the most expensive housing areas.

Some are in favour of offering incentives to building societies to offer similar deals.

Whitehall sources emphasized yesterday that the proposals were still at a formative stage. However, the Treasury is keen to produce proposals for cheaper housing in time for the Budget.

Civil Servants are put in political firing line

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

The scene was the annual meeting of the National Federation of Housing Co-operatives. Delegates were argumentative, fearful of the new housing Bill.

In the red corner stood a Labour MP, roundly condemning the Government. In the other, representing that Government, was not a Conservative politician, although he was the only man in the room wearing a suit the voice of the Government was a politically neutral under-secretary from the Department of the Environment.

There is nothing new in Civil Servants making public speeches defending government policy, but there is something unusual in officials

speaking in a charged, politically partisan atmosphere.

No one at that recent housing meeting assumed that the official, Mr Gavin Watson, was anything other than deftly presenting the views of his political master, Mr Nicholas Ridley. Yet his appearance at a meeting where his "opponent" was a Labour MP raises questions about Civil Service impartiality.

The rules say it is a minister's job to justify, the Civil Servant's job to explain. But when you add to that the Civil Servant's duty on occasion to act as a surrogate for his absent minister, then the distinction becomes blurred.

"Common sense" is all you need, the old hands say. It is

all a matter of personality: even if the Civil Service Selection Board does not rate its candidates on their platform skills, good officials should find public speaking no chore.

One reason Civil Servants are happy to put themselves in the firing line and to speechify (and stay around for the questions from the floor) is that the intelligence gleaned can be immensely useful.

Quite how Mr Kenneth Clark, as new inner cities supremo, will co-ordinate the small Cabinet Office secretariat headed by Mr Eric Sorensen from his suite at the Department of Trade and Industry is a fine administrative puzzle for the new

year. Even less clear is how his talk of being a "one-stop shop" for private firms in the inner cities is to be translated for the regional offices run in parallel by his own department and by the Department of the Environment.

Earlier in his career Mr Sorensen was "Mr Merseyside", in charge of the Department of the Environment office in Liverpool. As a matter of sheer prudence, no minister should contemplate doing anything in Liverpool, St Helens or Wirral until Mr Sorensen's successor has been consulted, as his flow of intelligence is so good.

Mr Hayden Phillips has come a long way since he was the Home Office under sec-

retary in charge of the immigration and nationality department, and if the speculation in the Treasury is to be believed he is shortly to go further. Mr Phillips, at present deputy secretary in charge of the Top Management Programme in the Cabinet Office, is tipped for the crucial job of implementing the recommendations of Sir Robin Jubb's report, *The Next Steps*. Since they involve some drastic surgery on certain departments they will require muscle. The plan is for Mr Phillips to be promoted, again, up to Grade One, Permanent Secretary, level and to make him a sort of progress chaser for Sir Robin's reorganization plan.

Whitehall sources emphasized yesterday that the proposals were still at a formative stage. However, the Treasury is keen to produce proposals for cheaper housing in time for the Budget.

Telecom hopes new package will boost its battered image

By Tony Dawe

British Telecom is launching a package of improvements to the telephone network in the new year as it fights to recover from being labelled the nation's most unpopular public service in 1987.

Mr Mike Bett, head of the network, says that the measures will seek to end Telecom's reputation for "broken promises" over repairs and new installations.

"They should also stop the 'Telecom shunt' which has seen customers passed from one member of staff to another as they try to obtain service."

The company plans a large replacement programme for lines linking local exchanges with subscribers' homes and businesses, to reduce the likelihood of faults and improve the clarity of calls.

Hundreds of thousands of customers will also start receiving itemized bills next year after pressure from consumer organizations and articles in *The Times* which showed how faulty meters and crossed lines could lead to overcharging.

In spite of these measures,

1988 will be another difficult year for Telecom. Its pricing formula and range of services will come under review by OfTel, the Government's official watchdog, in the new year and may be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. To encourage competition, the commission could insist that any rise in Telecom's prices is accompanied by penalty clauses to compensate customers for poor service.

The National Consumer Council is pressing for a change in customer contracts which it describes as unfair.

The new year will start with the latest survey of the nation's call boxes, which is expected to show little improvement on recent reports of one in four being out of order. The introduction of charges for the directory inquiry service is also forecast for 1988.

Mr Bett, managing director of Telecom's UK division, said: "If we can improve the quality of service, it will take the sting out of these issues. My message for the coming year is that we are determined

to improve dramatically the network."

One of Telecom's priorities is to tackle the faults which annoy customers most. It hopes the widespread introduction of the Customer Service Systems computer will eliminate "broken promises" over repairs and installations and put an end to the Telecom shunt.

The new system, already in force in four of Telecom's 29 geographical areas will enable staff to call up all the records of each subscriber on a screen and organize whatever service is required without passing the buck.

More money is also being made available to improve the quality of telephone lines with hundreds of miles of "local loop" linking exchanges with individual subscribers being replaced. Many of the loops were installed decades ago and buried in inaccessible places, making repairs difficult.

Another programme will replace "drop wire" between telephone poles and customers' homes.

Mr Bett also said Telecom is determined to improve Britain's 79,000 call boxes by modernizing equipment, improving cash collections and cleaning and developing a better fault reporting system.

"Until we have got the call boxes more to the satisfaction of people, Telecom will always have a sour flavour for the public," he said.

A further objective is to persuade more people to use the plastic phone cards as boxes without cash hold no attraction for thieves.

Mr Bett said: "We will be trying to make the cards more attractive next year with special ones being produced for Valentine's Day and the 400th anniversary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. It may sound like confectionery but it all helps to make people aware that phone cards exist and can be fun."

"There is a lot of customer caring in British Telecom already. But we want to improve staff training further so that everyone understands that courtesy and an immediate response turn away wrath," he said.

Blyth spirit masters the hunting graces



Off duty: Mr Chay Blyth, the sailing champion, hunting in Cornwall with his horse, Otter (India Knight writes).

Mr Blyth came to riding eight years ago, after his "horse-mad" daughter, Samantha, now aged 16, was given a pony. Watching Samantha trot round the local riding school, Mr Blyth was determined to have a try himself.

He bought an old eventing horse and after a few weeks joined the local hunt, the East Cornwall, although he could not "recognize a good hound from a ratty terrier". Mr Blyth said: "Everyone makes mistakes when taking up a new sport but mine were particularly acute".

Early in his hunting career, Mr Blyth was unaware that hounds were always counted in

pairs. Returning from a hunt, the master counted the hounds and said to the assembled company: "I make it eight". Concerned about the master's evident myopia, Mr Blyth cried out: "I make it sixteen". However, Mr Blyth has recently been awarded his "buttons" - given to attentive hunt members. He hunts every Saturday. (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Overcharging still the greatest worry

The Times continues to receive numerous complaints from subscribers about Telecom bills after articles last September which disclosed that inaccurate meters and faults such as crossed lines were leading to considerable overcharging.

Telecom insists the faults are rare and that mistakes in its meters are more likely to favour customers than penalize them. But subscribers with their own metering devices are constantly picking up faults, such as being charged at peak rate in off-peak times and for free calls to a faults repairs service.

Mr Laurence Godfrey discovered he was being charged on his 383 exchange in London for calls which did not even answer. His meter showed that because of a wiring fault in the

network, charging pulses were being sent out as soon as the phone at the other end started ringing.

Mrs Gloria Alexander, of Camberley, Surrey, found she was connected for 24 hours to the dial-a-disc service. Every time she picked up the phone, the music was there, and she was being charged for it.

Mr Bett told *The Times*: "Our meters are set so that undercharging is more likely than overcharging, but I agree that faults do occur now and again. We are trying to reduce the likelihood of errors by testing the system meticulously."

The problems should be eased by the introduction of itemized billing which starts next month and should cover more than half the country in two years.

Quick reading idea rejected

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

A mother of three children has devised a scheme which teaches children to read independently in a week but her ideas have been rejected by up to 40 publishers.

Mrs Gertrude Linnane invented her pictorial reading system 10 years ago when, as a trained Montessori teacher, she presented children's programmes for Irish television.

Mrs Linnane, of Richmond, Surrey, now believes that years of children's lives are wasted in plodding through repetitive, uninspiring reading systems when a far more

intensive and "fun" approach could open the world of books to children.

Her success with pupils over three years at her private school in Dublin has convinced her that the teaching establishment is underestimating the ability of children.

After one week of learning with her, children of average ability and some of below average ability begin to tackle

I saw Mrs Linnane taking Miriam Montague, aged three, through the first steps of the scheme. The child had spent

the previous evening listening to a tape of songs sung by Mrs Linnane, each of which tells a "story" attached to each letter.

When she was presented for the first time with the letters of the alphabet incorporated into pictures - for example, the "h" is turned into a horse by the addition of head and tail, "i" is a Red Indian and the "o" is the body of an octopus - the child quickly matched up cards bearing the letters with those in the book by recalling the song she had heard and the character associated with the letter.

Criticism of Runcie is denied

By Paul Valley

A prominent Anglican clergyman, who has written an article interpreted as another attack by a conservative churchman on the Archbishop of Canterbury, yesterday denied that he had intended to make any personal criticisms of Dr Robert Runcie.

Canon George Austin, a leading Anglo-Catholic member of the General Synod, has previously espoused views similar to those in the *Crookford's Preface* in which the late Dr Gareth Beckett condemned Dr Runcie for excessive liberalism.

Canon Austin's denial came after a signed article in the *Prayerbook Society* periodical, *Faith and Worship*, which complained that a priest could deny the Resurrection, the Virgin Birth, the divinity of Christ and the doctrine of Salvation and yet still become a bishop so long as he was not opposed to the ordination of women. The article was quoted in a Sunday paper.

Yesterday Canon Austin, vicar of Bushey Heath, Watford, said: "This is all a misunderstanding. The article was a light-hearted one, written in the style of C S Lewis's *Screwtape Letters* for a parish magazine almost a year ago.

Bookmakers may face cartel inquiry

By Colin Narborough

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, will early next month take the decision that could open a full monopolies inquiry into the "big four" bookmakers - Ladbroke, Mecca, Coral and William Hill.

His officials have completed their scrutiny of what they suspect to be a cartel controlling two thirds of the off-course market in bookmaking.

The papers are on Sir Gordon's desk awaiting his decision. If he is convinced there is a cartel working against the public interest, he

will order a detailed investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

On the strength of the commission's conclusions, the companies could be ordered to dismantle any cartel arrangements, possibly by shedding some business.

The investigation forms part of a two-pronged inquiry by the Office of Fair Trading into the bookmaking business after changes made in the betting laws in March last year.

On one front, alleged monopoly practices in the transfer of racecourse information by satellite, agreement was reached with the

firms involved to redraft their plans to overcome objections from monopoly watchdogs.

On the second, wider, front, investigators have continued scrutinizing all aspects of the business from potential abuse of "complex monopolies", or cartels, in the distribution of information, margins on computerized betting, taxation, and anti-competitive practices that keep small bookmakers from competing effectively.

Of the four firms involved, only Ladbroke is an independently quoted company, the others belonging to large groups.

If Sir Gordon demands a monopolies inquiry it is not expected to take as long as have earlier ones.

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has been pressing the watchdogs of fair trade to conduct their investigations as speedily as possible, and monopolies inquiries can now be completed in less than a year.

Last year, Sir Gordon ordered a monopolies inquiry into the brewing industry, giving the commission two years to report on its findings. Unlike takeover and merger referrals, such investigations do not require government approval.

Support in Enniskillen for Queen's message

A man praised by the Queen for killing IRA bombers who killed his daughter said the royal message of compassion and tolerance was the only way to secure peace in Ireland.

Mr Gordon Wilson's daughter Marie, aged 20, was one of 11 people who died in the Enniskillen bombing.

Mr Wilson, who held his daughter's hand as she lay dying, told the media he forgave the IRA. The Queen praised his forgiveness in her annual Christmas Day message to Commonwealth coun-

tries in which she called for tolerance and understanding.

"I want to say very simply that I and my family were greatly moved and humbled by the fact that Her Majesty mentioned me and my family," Mr Wilson said.

"Her message of forgiveness and tolerance through love for our fellow man is the only way forward to bring peace in Ireland."

Since the bombing Mr Wilson, whose right arm was partially paralysed, has met the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Anti-theft campaign defended

By Stewart Tensler
Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard yesterday defended its use of "baited" vehicles under police surveillance in an operation to combat thefts from vans in London streets. It also denied using entrapment.

The operation, code-named Temple Two, which ran for several weeks, was set up after consultations with the crown prosecution service. The Yard believes that it was operating within the law.

So far 87 people have been charged and to date the police campaign has not been challenged in the magistrates' courts.

A senior detective said the operation had been no different from the sort in which a woman police officer is used as bait for a rapist.

The operation was run from West End Central police station and set up after complaints from traders that thieves were taking goods from their vehicles. Two delivery vans were parked in Soho and the Oxford Street area and their rear doors left open, showing boxes labelled to suggest expensive contents such as video equipment or alcoholic drinks.

The vans were kept under observation by 10 officers.

Other campaigns over Christmas have included attempts to reduce shoplifting. Scores of plain-clothes officers patrolled Knightsbridge and Oxford Street, and a mobile police station has been in use outside Harrods, the department store.

Police believe that shop lifting may have been reduced significantly.

Yard's forensic chief bows out

By Michael Horsnell

Dr Ray Williams, head of the Metropolitan Police's renowned forensic science laboratory, is leaving with a detectable degree of irritation.

The imminent arrival of genetic fingerprinting has placed forensic science on the threshold of a revolution. The British-developed technique of scientifically analysing DNA, the deoxyribonucleic acid which contains the unique genetic code of every individual in blood, semen, hair and even skin, led to the conviction of a rapist last month, the first by the use of the method.

Dr Williams, CBE, aged 60, veteran of the Markov case, the Brighton and Harrods bombings, the Libyan People's Bureau shooting, the Dikko abduction attempt and the Dennis Nilson mass murder case, starts his retirement this week at his home near Bournemouth.

He said: "There is never a right time to go, especially with all that DNA fingerprinting means but you have to learn to bow out gracefully when your time comes. My time at the laboratory has been the most satisfying and exciting period of my life."

He will remember the unsolved Georgi Markov case and the time that a poisoned pellet, the size of a ballpoint pen-tip, rolled along a laboratory bench, indicating that the Bulgarian emigré had been murdered.

Dr Williams had sent tissue from the dead man's leg to colleagues at the Chemical Defence Establishment, Porton Down, after police asked him to check if Markov could have been poisoned.

The tissue was from the area of the thigh in which the Bulgarian dissident broadcaster believed he had been stabbed with an umbrella while waiting for a bus in London in 1978. The implication of the pellet's discovery

was that the deadly toxin used was unusual.

Dr Williams's staff at the laboratory found holes in the pellet from which the poison was emitted and had to calculate from their minute size, the weight of the material it could have contained.

From that an estimate was made of the type of poison sufficient to kill a man in such small quantity and give rise to Markov's symptoms.

Eventually Dr Williams decided that his symptoms were, in the time-honoured phrase of forensic scientists, "consistent with" ricin poison from the seed of the castor oil plant.

Dr Williams, married with two children, took over the laboratory 19 years ago after graduating at St John's College, Oxford, in chemistry and taking a DPhil in infra-red spectroscopy.

Dr Williams, leaving on the eve of the genetic revolution

Art fakes

Approved copies open up a market

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

A French entrepreneur has struck upon what he thinks is the answer to all impatient art lovers' dreams: authorized one-off fakes by contemporary artists.

Daniel Delamare has 15 fake-artists in his stable, and to date they have reproduced paintings by Turner ("View of Venice": £7,800, as opposed to the £7.5 million for an original on the open market), Modigliani (£5,500 compared with the recent record of £3.3 million) and Van Gogh (£2,000 to the auction record of £30 million).

The appeal of the project is, in theory, both the high quality of the products, and their near-unique status. Mr Delamare has made arrangements, rather like a copyright, whereby he pays the owners of the originals a sum (which he keeps confidential) for the right to reproduce the work with the artist's "signature". The paintings are sold with stamps on

the back saying "Copy", and certificates saying that the work is not original.

"No one else has been able to offer legal copies before," Mr Delamare said.

Mr Delamare, aged 34, made his money in the textile industry. He says that there always used to be a tradition of copying great paintings as when Philip II of Spain arrived in Belgium and was impressed by Van Eyck's "The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb", and his half-sister, Marguerite de Parme, promised to present him with a copy. At that time, Mr Delamare says, no one disputed the artistic value of the copy.

Mr Delamare's sister, Miss Danielle van Santen, said that she travelled Europe interviewing 3,000 prospective painters while setting up the project, and eventually decided on ones with something in common with the original painters' style and verve.

At the suggestion that these paintings

might be soulless compared with their prototypes, Mr Gordon Heathfield of the gallery said: "But this is an illusion of reality. Like concert pianists who interpret the composers, our artists re-create the moment of passion."

And so, Daniel Delamare's Van Gogh is a Dutchman living near Amsterdam who "enters the same spirit as him, rather than mechanically copying the painting. It's like copying hand writing: it has to be done in the same time as the original". The gallery has two "Reservoirs", one capable of holding the artist's pastel colours, the other his brighter moments.

Copyrights are, they claim, well known as contemporary artists in their own right, but "because they have contracts with galleries they prefer to remain anonymous".

So far the Daniel Delamare Gallery has 50 paintings in stock, and 20 others in production.

Doctor in drink case gives up

By Kerry Gill

Dr John Forbes-Proctor, who last week resigned after eight years as the family doctor in Tongue on the north coast of Scotland, may start a new career running a guest house. The doctor was banned from driving for a year and fined £150 for driving after drinking more than the permitted level last July.

The Highland Health Board confirmed that Dr Forbes-Proctor, aged 47, had resigned and that his service would end on April 9.

Last year the General Medical Council cleared the doctor of 10 drink-associated complaints brought by patients.

He was reprimanded last month at a hearing held by the local board's medical service committee.

Mrs Valerie White complained that an injection given to her was a year out of date and that Dr Forbes-Proctor had smelled of alcohol.

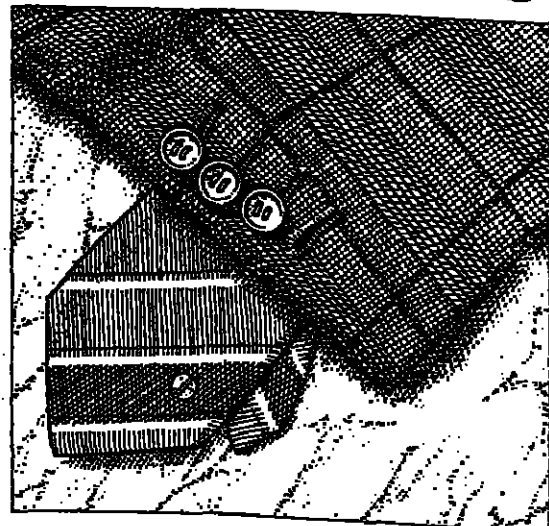
The house bought by the doctor last month for £53,000 in the centre of Tongue, has 15 rooms and two self-contained holiday flats as well as bed and breakfast facilities.

Mr James Challoner, who sold it to Dr Forbes-Proctor, said: "I do not know if he is considering running it as a full time occupation. In order to make a living my wife and I had to work from 6.30am to midnight."

Mr Sandy MacPherson, the local bank manager, said: "He gave me no indication he was about to resign. Some of his patients will feel sorry he has decided to go. Others will have a different view."

Dr Forbes-Proctor refused to comment on his resignation.

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Britain takes lead in vehicle safety

Ice warning to cut road accidents

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

Britain is to be the first country to get detailed weather and ice forecasts for its roads.

As well as reducing the number of accidents, the service could save up to 50 per cent of the £100 million spent every year on road salting.

A National Ice Prediction Centre has been set up at Birmingham University to co-ordinate the computer monitoring of road conditions in a number of English counties, including Kent, Lancashire and Cheshire.

Selected roads in those counties have been equipped with out-stations which monitor local weather conditions such as the humidity and temperature, enabling icy conditions to be predicted.

Sensors buried in roads also measure variations in the electrical properties of the surface. The data are fed to a central computer at the national centre which uses the electrical measurements to detect the presence of black ice on the road.

Dr John Thomas, of Thermal Mapping International, the Birmingham University-backed company that is developing the network, said that much of the saving predicted for the service came

A mandatory speed limit in motorway contraflows around road works to curb accidents is to be considered as part of a review of motorway policy (Daniel Ward writes). The review has been called for by Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, with the aim of bringing together many individual initiatives to improve motorways.

The review will consider building up to 19 more service areas to cut the driving time between rest areas to half an hour; speeding up

from the fact that less salt was needed to prevent ice than to cure it after it had formed.

That should also reduce the damage done to the bodywork of cars by the use of rock salt by over-zealous councils.

Experiments carried out last winter in Cheshire showed

that the cost of setting up the sensing equipment could be recouped in a year or so.

Researchers have issued a warning that buyers of cars fitted with anti-lock brakes are likely to have more accidents, because "they are presented more or less openly, with the belief that their vehicles will

the closing of gaps in the central reservation barriers; and the possible extension to all motorways of electronic information signs and fog detectors now used in an experiment on the M25.

The police are understood to be backing the idea of mandatory speed limits in the dangerous confines of contraflows. However enforcing mandatory speed limits presents huge problems. Police estimate it requires 15 patrol cars to effectively enforce them.

remain easy to handle in every single situation."

The research by Mannheim University, West Germany, showed that those cars with anti-lock brakes were involved in fewer accidents where the driver was to blame and none involving a side collision.

Scotland

M8 Lethbridge: eastbound hard shoulder only, no access from A899 at Livingston.

M8 Strathclyde eastbound inside lane closed between jns 27 and 29 (Renfrew/Paisley). Outside lane closed both ways between jns 29 and 30 (Paisley/Erskine Bridge).

M9 Central Region: lane closures both ways between jns 9 and 10 (M80/Stirling). M90 Fife: one lane on both carriageways at jn 1 (Admiralty flyover) near Firth of Forth.

A9 Sutherland: restrictions and closures near Caenmore, west of Golspie, at Brora and north of Helmsdale.

A92 Kincardineshire: single line traffic south of Inverburnie.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch

between Six Hills and Broughton, near Leicester. A478 Poynton roadworks at Cwmabach Lledrhyd, north of Bala.

Wales and West

M4 Gwent: lane restrictions between jns 23 and 24 (Magor/A48).

M4 Mid Glamorgan: crash barrier repairs between jns 34 and 37 (Llantrisant/Portcaw).

M4 West Glamorgan: eastbound lane closures at jn 45 (A4067).

M5 Gloucestershire: contraflow between jns 11 and 12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester).

M5 Somerset: lane closures on both carriageways between jns 23 and 26 (A38/Welington).

A38 Devon: contraflow at Drumbridges between Exeter and Ashburton.

A30 Dorset: single line traffic

west of West Stour between Shaftesbury and Sherborne. A478 Poynton roadworks at Cwmabach Lledrhyd, north of Bala.

North

M62 West Yorkshire: contraflow jn 25 to 26 (A644 Brighouse/M606 Bradford).

M63 Greater Manchester: restrictions for widening of Barton Bridge. Peak hour congestion. Construction of flyover at Portwood roundabout. Stockport. Reduced to 2 lanes.

A6 Greater Manchester: lane closures heading into Salford by Salford University.

A1 Yorkshire: contraflow at Catwick bypass.

A69 Tyne and Wear: lane restrictions along Durham Road in Sunderland.



An enthusiast casting an expert eye yesterday over an entry at the Meccano Model exhibition which opened at the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden, central London. Models both modern and rare are on display until Sunday. (Photograph: Peter Trivelpiece)

A dual carriageway bypass at Towcester in Northamptonshire, was opened last week, six months ahead of schedule. Major roadworks until next Monday

London and the South-east

M11 Essex: contraflow between jns 8 and 10 (Bishops Cleeve/Dunstable). Weekend carriageway closures.

M3 Hampshire: lane closures between jns 7 and 9 (Basingstoke/Winchester) in both directions.

M2 Kent: contraflow at jn 4 (Gillingham).

A2 Bedford: contraflow and lane closures on East Rochester Way.

A2 Kent: roundabout construction at the Whitfield roundabout near Dover.

A12 Essex: contraflow at Brentwood bypass with one lane only on Chelmsford-bound carriageway.

Midlands

M1 Leicestershire: contraflow between jns 24 and 25 (A6 airport/Nottingham).

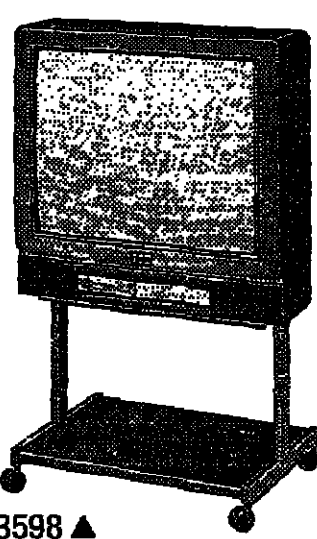
M5 Hereford/Worcester: lane closures in both directions between jns 5 and 6 (Bromsgrove/Worcester, south). Northbound entry slip at jn 6 closed. Overnight carriageway closures.

M5 West Midlands: lane closures between jns 1 and 2 (West Bromwich/Birmingham West). Southbound entry slip at jn 1 and northbound entry slip at jn 2 closed.

A5 Staffordshire: single line traffic between M6 and Tetford.

A46 Leicestershire: contraflow

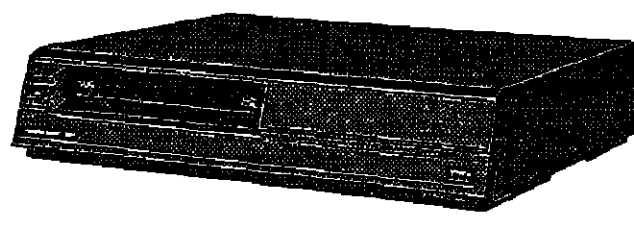
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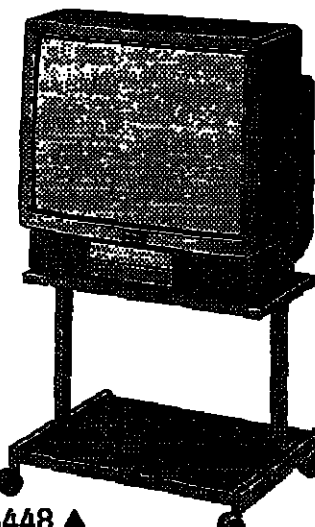
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Alarm sounds for school burglars

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

An alarm system which has been used successfully in United States schools has caught at least 100 vandals and would-be burglars in British schools which have installed it at a cost of up to £3,500.

The system, distributed by Sonitrol, an Oldham company, uses sensitive microphones to pick up the sound of intruders' voices or breaking glass and sends it via the telephone line to a monitoring centre which alerts the police. Intruders are usually caught before they realize they have been detected.

Schools in the North-west are spending between £2,000 for primary schools and £3,500 for large compre-

hensives on the system to protect valuable equipment.

Mr Kevin Manley, of Oldham Education Authority, which has installed 15 Sonitrol systems, said: "The fact is that with conventional alarms, which signal a genuine break-in only two per cent of the time, we have never caught an intruder. With the Sonitrol systems we have already caught several."

Vandalism and theft in schools costs millions of pounds each year. A recent Department of Education and Science bulletin said that 5 to 10 per cent of school maintenance budgets is spent on repairing vandalized property, estimated at between £25 and £30 million a year.

Invest in skill, firms are urged

By Ian Smith

Fundamental changes in management training will be recommended by Dr Rab Telfer when he returns to industry after four years as director of Manchester Business School.

Dr Telfer, a former chairman of the petrochemicals division of Imperial Chemical Industries and head of Mather and Platt engineering, is seeking a fresh challenge after winning international acclaim for the school.

His expected return to a senior executive position in industry next year will be greeted with delight by forward boardroom thinkers and suspicion by elder statesmen resentful of the new philosophy that skill and not schooling should determine promotion.

In his final annual report, Dr Telfer will speak of inevitable problems ahead, unless sweeping changes are accepted. Quality, not academic achievement, should determine management selection.

More effort should be made to help non-graduates attain advanced management skills. The reward for firms would be better managers, able to increase company profits.

Dr Telfer's message is: "Today's management skills for success may pave the way for tomorrow's failures. With the future pace of change, what was right today could be wrong tomorrow."

Nissan's success explained

By Ronald Farr, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The success of Nissan's car production in the North-east is a thoroughly British success supported by Japanese capital, the plant's personnel manager says in a book.

Mr Peter Wickens, who was the company's first British employee, has written *The Road to Nissan* to try to explode the myths about Japanese management. The workforce does not perform exercises or sing the company anthem before starting each shift, nor is overtime compulsory at the Nissan plant.

He says the Japanese believe in the group where the British centre on the individual. Each group of 20 at Washington, Tyne and Wear, works under a supervisor.

Instead of group gymnastics each shift begins with a five-minute chat from the supervisor about the rate of progress and the job in hand.

The Japanese word best known among the north-east workforce is *kaizen*, which means continuous improvement and is linked to the notion that "the next person on the line is my customer".

Mr Wickens, who has wide experience of British personnel management, believes the Nissan experience is being repeated in other industries and is greatly preferred by all sides to the traditional methods he describes as divide and manage.

Graffiti hooligans must clean buses

By Craig Seton

Graffiti vandals who caused damage of almost £2 million to a fleet of buses are to clean the vehicles they sprayed with paint.

Nearly 50 members of a gang, called the South Siders, were arrested and prosecuted after an undercover police operation in Birmingham.

Seven youths were sentenced by Solihull magistrates to a total of 650 hours' community service and ordered to pay £1,200 compensation to West Midlands Travel, the bus company.

It has struggled with probation officers that some of the vandals should spend part of their community service sentence cleaning off the graffiti.

The court had been told that

one youth admitted spraying his distinctive name tag 600 times on buses and shelters. Ten youths are still to be dealt with by the court.

Mr Geoffrey Lusher, group general manager of West Midlands Travel, said that the company was installing £3,000 video surveillance cameras on 174 buses to counter the problem.

"We were very pleased with the tougher sentences but I am afraid the graffiti writers are still at work on our buses. We are determined to beat them."

The police operation against the graffiti gang began last year when hundreds of the company's 1,600 vehicles were attacked, some so badly that they were taken out of service.

WORLD ROUNDUP

At least 25 die in Sri Lanka clash

Colombo (AP) — At least 25 people were killed yesterday in a gun battle in a crowded market in Batticaloa after suspected Tamil rebels fatally shot a policeman, residents of the eastern port city said. Eighteen of the victims were unarmed civilians, a priest in Batticaloa said.

There were conflicting versions about what happened. The Rev Pius Pathmarajah said Sri Lankan policemen and Indian soldiers opened fire after one policeman was killed by suspected Tamil rebels. But an Indian diplomat in Colombo denied that any Indians were involved in the killings.

A Sri Lankan military official in Colombo said he had unofficial reports that 25 people were dead, but said he could not say how they were killed. Mr Pathmarajah said he thought seven of those killed were Tamil fighters.

Border meeting Nicaragua flare-up

The Presidents of Kenya and Uganda are to meet today to discuss heated clashes along their common border earlier this month, it was announced in Kampala yesterday (Paul Valley writes).

It will be their first substantial meeting since President Museveni took control in Uganda. Personal animosity between the two men is said to have been a significant factor in the deteriorating relations between the two countries. The exact whereabouts of the meeting are unclear but Ugandan officials said it will be just inside Uganda.

Tegucigalpa (Reuter) — Radio Liberation, a Contra radio, reported that heavy fighting resumed in Nicaragua at the weekend after the Sandinista Government and the rebels accused each other of violating a two-day Christmas truce.

According to the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry in Managua, at least 213 people were said to have been killed in a single Contra offensive — died in fighting in three mining towns in north-eastern Nicaragua early this week. The casualty toll — including dead, wounded, missing and captured — was 545.

Cows in killer shuttle

Paris (AFP) — French airline officials were attempting yesterday to find out who was responsible for shutting dozens of cows back and forth between three continents over Christmas, most of whom were found dead on arrival at Charles de Gaulle airport.

Some 120 cows began a flight on Christmas Day in New York on an Air France cargo aircraft bound for Baghdad via Paris. On arrival in Baghdad 75 cows were unloaded from the upper deck, but six or seven of 45 on the lower deck were found to be dead and the Iraqis were unwilling to unload the live animals. The plane then flew to Dubai, but there the pilot was unable either to unload the dead cows or feed the survivors. Finally, the aircraft returned to Paris.

Herald adrift Singapore press curb

Johannesburg (AP) — The *Herald of Free Enterprise*, the Zeebrugge disaster ferry, was reported adrift yesterday after breaking loose from a West German tug towing it to a scrapyard in Taiwan.

The South African Broadcasting Corporation said the *Herald* and another ferry broke loose in gale force winds and heavy seas about 24 miles off Cape St Francis. The tug captain was quoted as saying that the ferries were in imminent danger and that he planned to wait for the winds to abate before trying to reconnect the tow lines.

Singapore (Reuter) — Singapore accused *The Far Eastern Economic Review* at the weekend of "distorted and misleading articles" and ordered it to cut drastically its sales here.

Since August, 1986, the Government has used a tough new law to restrict sales of foreign publications whose reports were deemed to be interfering in local politics. It has slashed by 90 per cent the circulation of three other journals. *The Review* was punished for its reporting; the others for refusing to print rejoinders to alleged mistakes.

'Child brides' return

Two British women said to have been sold as child brides in North Yemen are now expected to return to Britain with their Yemeni husbands (Andrew McEwen writes). Although the women are reported to have accepted their husbands reluctantly, Whitehall sources said the men would probably qualify under British law to live in this country.

Zana Muhsen and her sister, Nadia, claimed in an interview that they left their home in Birmingham seven years ago to visit their father's native country, only to find they had been sold for £1,300 to local men.

Tutu plea for end to Natal feuding

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, called yesterday in a new year's message for an immediate ceasefire between warring black political factions in Natal province, and appealed to them to end their "shocking carnage".

The archbishop's appeal — his most forthright condemnation of "black-on-black" violence to date — came as police reported eight more killings in Natal, bringing to at least 13 the number of blacks stabbed, burnt and shot to death in civil strife in the province over the Christmas weekend.

Archbishop Tutu asserted that "the maintenance of hardcore apartheid" was ultimately to blame for the intercommunal black feuding because "it denies black political groups the logical and peaceful way to test their political support, through the ballot box, and transfers conflict to the streets".

Nine of the weekend killings occurred in black townships around Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Natal, where young militants of the United Democratic Front (UDF) and older supporters of the Inkatha movement have been waging a ferocious struggle for power for many months.

The UDF, which is politically aligned with the outlawed African National Congress, is a multi-racial, though mainly black, alliance of radical anti-apartheid groups which want immediate majority rule, while Inkatha, led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, a scion of the Zulu royal family, is more amenable to compromise based on inter-racial "power-sharing".

More than 200 blacks have died in the UDF-Inkatha feuding in Natal over the past six months. The fatality rate — averaging between two and four killings a day in recent weeks — is as high as at the worst periods of the 1985-1986 township violence.

The daily catalogue of stabbings and burnings has become so mind-numbing that the South African, as well as foreign, news media scarcely bother to report them any more, possibly because blacks killing blacks is considered less newsworthy than while policemen shooting black rioters.

Archbishop Tutu said that, if peace talks between the UDF and Inkatha were to stand any chance of success, the fighting must be stopped, the fighting must be stopped, the fighting must be stopped.



Archbishop Tutu: Prospect of violence feeding on itself.

otherwise there was the "prospect of violence feeding on itself in a ghastly spiral of unending revenge killings."

Previous appeals for peace in Natal from Archbishop Tutu have made little impact on the level of the fighting.

Glimpses of Gorbachov past in 'Time' tribute



New York (Reuter) — *Time* magazine chose Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, as its "Man of the Year" at the weekend, calling him "a ruthless political opportunist" who was yet a "symbol of hope for a new kind of Soviet Union". The Gorbachov cover will appear in the weekly's January 4 issue, which will also carry some rare family photographs of the Soviet leader, including a wedding portrait taken in 1954 (centre), and a glimpse of him in 1935, during the Stalin era, at the age of four (right). *Time* said Mr Gorbachov "has re-invented the idea of a Soviet leader" since coming to power after Yuri Andropov died of a



kidney failure in early 1984. "Virtually everything about his country and its place in world affairs seems less ponderous, less opaque, than it did before he became General Secretary of the Communist Party of the USSR," said the magazine's senior writer, Donald Morrison. Morrison called Mr Gorbachov "a dedicated



Communist. Also a ruthless political opportunist. In 1987 he became something more, a symbol of a new kind of Soviet Union: more open, more concerned with the welfare of its citizens and less with the spread of its ideology and system abroad." The article also said: "He could be the most dangerous adversary the

US and its allies have faced in decades — or the most constructive. Moulded by famine and war, promised a measure of hope after Stalin's demise and then abruptly disillusioned, Gorbachov is not the sort of man who would be willingly drag his country back into the dark days of repression."

Whitehall rejects claim of new role for Gulf patrol

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence yesterday resisted growing pressure from the Opposition to admit that the Royal Navy's role in the Gulf has been discreetly extended. A spokesman said that, whether Labour chose to believe it or not, there had been no change in policy.

But Mr George Robertson, MP for Hamilton and a foreign affairs spokesman, pointed to incidents during the Christmas holiday in which the Armilla Patrol appeared to have stepped beyond its limited role.

Labour criticisms followed the safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday of an international group of eight vessels accompanied by the frigate Scylla. They included two Saudi Arabian tankers, a Panamanian vessel, and the Bermuda-registered *Esso Atlantic*, which is one of the biggest in the world at 508,731 tons.

The Ministry of Defence said it could not prevent foreign vessels from sailing alongside the Armilla Patrol, but it had no duty to protect

them. Its role was only to protect British-owned or British-registered vessels. If foreign vessels came under attack the Royal Navy would not respond, except to save lives.

But Mr Robertson said the need to establish which foreign-flagged vessels were British-owned placed Royal Navy

Belgrade (AP) — The Yugoslav Government planned to send eight Iranian refugees back to Dubai last night despite threats by the group, which includes a pregnant woman, that they will commit suicide unless they were allowed to travel to Canada. The Iranians, who arrived on Saturday from Dubai, were seeking to emigrate to Canada but they had no valid visas.

commanders in an impossible position.

"It poses a moral dilemma: they are being told not to act in a humanitarian and natural way, which would be to protect them from the initial attack," he said. He added that the extension of cover to include British-owned vessels created further problems.

been in Whitehall as nipping. There is a wider purpose behind them. The Opposition's aim is to bring about a reassessment of the Soviet proposal that foreign navies patrolling the Gulf should be withdrawn and replaced by a joint force.

● NICOSIA: Warplanes and missiles, chemical weapons and food — all produced in Iran — top Tehran's new budget unveiled yesterday for its war-dominated economy (Reuter reports).

Mr Mir Hossein Mousavi, the Prime Minister, told Parliament in a budget speech that self-sufficiency was vital for Iran, now in its eighth year of war with Iraq, along with reduced reliance on oil revenue.

The national news agency, Irna, said: "The long list of domestic defence industry production includes sophisticated offensive chemical weapons." ● BAGHDAD: Iraqi warplanes attacked and hit a ship near the Iranian coast in the northern Gulf on Saturday night, a military spokesman said yesterday (Reuter reports).

While Labour's attacks may

Moscow chemical weapons count a surprise for West

From A Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union announced at the weekend that it possessed no more than 50,000 tons of chemical weapons, six times less than the lowest Western estimate of total Soviet stockpiles.

It is the first time the Soviet Union has put a figure on its chemical weapons stockpiles, estimated by Western experts at between 300,000 and 500,000 tons, thus constituting the world's biggest chemical arsenal.

The announcement was made in a Foreign Ministry statement carried by Tass and read on the nightly television news. It said Soviet stockpiles were all located on Soviet territory and corresponded to US chemical weapons stocks.

The statement also launched a fresh attack on Washington's production of binary weapons — a new generation of chemical arms whose component parts become toxic when combined — which started on December 16. The US decision to manufacture the binary weapons was "nothing short of an attempt to torpedo the process of chemical disarmament".

Washington maintains that the binary programme became necessary because the Soviet Union had continued to build up chemical weapons stocks in the last 20 years, posing a threat to US security.

The Soviet figures were revealed, according to the Soviet statement, to put an end to US "deception" concerning Moscow's chemical arsenal. The statement ridiculed the "fantastic data" produced by US spokesmen, who claimed that the Soviet stockpiles amounted to "250,000 to 700,000 tons of warfare poisonous substances and that the Soviet Union has

a multiple edge over the United States".

The Soviet Union's chemical weapons programme had been shrouded in secrecy until last April, when the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, admitted for the first time that the country possessed chemical weapons. He then announced that the Soviet Union had stopped production and was building a plant to destroy stockpiles.

Since then, the Soviet authorities, in a move they said was aimed at speeding up conclusion of the treaty, opened to Western experts a top-secret chemical warfare installation at Shikhan on the Volga and sent a delegation to inspect a similar US plant.

Moscow (Reuter) — The Soviet Union yesterday conducted an underground nuclear test explosion of 20 to 150 kilotons for military purposes, Tass said. The test was the third since the superpower summit meeting earlier this month.

The Soviet decision to release the figures, albeit much lower than anticipated, goes some way to answering Western calls for Moscow to reveal the levels of its stockpiles and their location before a convention banning such weapons was signed.

The United States has issued a report detailing the locations of its chemical weapons, and their amounts in percentage terms, but has not made public the total tonnage of stockpiles held.

The Soviet move is likely to put pressure on Washington to do the same. The convention on a chemical weapons ban is said to be half completed, but according to US negotiators the talks have stalled.

Strauss smooths path

From John England, Bonn

Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the right-wing Prime Minister of Bavaria, will fly to Moscow today to begin a flurry of West German-Soviet contacts in advance of an expected visit to Bonn by the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, who will have been in Bonn for only a year ago would have been inconceivable.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl then had angered Mr Gorbachov by comparing him with Dr Josef Goebbels, the Nazi Propaganda Minister, as both being good public relations men. But a year is a long time in politics, and Bonn is confident that Mr Gorbachov will visit West Germany in the first half of 1988.

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, will visit Bonn on January 18-19 and is expected to bring with him a firm date for Mr Gorbachov's trip.

Herr Strauss' three-day mission in Moscow, like that of Herr Lothar Späth, the Christian Democrat Prime Minister of Baden-Württemberg, who will follow him in February, will be mainly about possible economic deals.

Aftermath of Palestinian demonstrations

Defence lawyers boycott Gaza trials

From A Correspondent, Jerusalem

Military courts in Jerusalem yesterday began the trials of Palestinians accused of taking part in the wave of riots in the occupied Arab areas in the past two weeks.

The courts and prosecution have been bolstered by dozens of reservists to cope with the hundreds of trials. More than 600 people are in detention in the West Bank and another 200 in the Gaza Strip, but some may be freed without being charged, military sources said yesterday.

Most of the trials were adjourned for further evidence. Defendants who were found guilty were sentenced to jail terms ranging from one month to two years and fines of £25 to £600.

In Gaza, defence lawyers declared a boycott of the military courts, saying that the conditions and haste under which the trials were being held made it impossible for them to do their job.

A military spokesman denied the allegations and also denied a report that the prosecutors had been instructed to ask for harsher sentences than

usual. The only change was that procedures would be speeded up wherever possible without infringing the rights of the accused, he said.

Officials have hinted that "dozens" of Palestinian leaders may be expelled to neighbouring Arab countries for instigating the riots, but there has been no confirmation of this.

Video film from television reports of the riots is being used by the prosecution as evidence, as well as photographs taken by police cameramen.

Israeli officials say that 22 Palestinians were killed and 158 injured in the riots. Fifty Israelis, mostly soldiers and policemen, were injured by demonstrators.

Although life in the occupied territories appeared to be returning to normal, police had to use tear gas to disperse left-wing demonstrators trying to march to the home of the Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, on Saturday.

About 1,500 people from the Peace Now movement attended a rally in Jerusalem to

call for an end to Israel's 20-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Police resorted to tear gas to repel several who tried to march to Mr Shamir's home in defiance of a ban.

Dozens of demonstrators from right-wing parties, including Mr Shamir's Likud bloc and the anti-Arab Kach party, held a counter-demonstration near by.

● WASHINGTON: Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, said the spectacle of force used against Palestinian demonstrators was "very unpleasant and painful" for the world, and Israel would try to use tear gas and rubber bullets and keep the use of live ammunition to a minimum (Michael Blayton writes).

But he made it clear that troops would still be allowed to open fire if they thought their lives were endangered. He said his country did not have the manpower to use riot police instead of soldiers. "The situation can be controlled and will be controlled."

Speaking from Tel Aviv on television here, he said Israel

would continue to try to cope with violent public disorder by using "minimum measures". But there would be no real end to this unless there was a political solution.

He repeated Israel's assertion that the solution to the Palestinian problem had to be linked to peace with Jordan, and there could not be a better Arab-Israeli understanding unless there was a resolution not to use force.

"What we have to drive home to the minds, the hearts, of the people of the Arab countries, their leaders, the Palestinians, is that by wars and threats of wars, terror, public disorder in a violent way, they will achieve nothing. This is our policy," he said.

He said that the purpose of the blacks in South Africa was one man, one vote. But even if Israel gave full citizenship to everyone in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, there would still be an "overwhelming" Jewish majority. "Therefore, there is no question that anyone has got the right to draw a parallel to South Africa."

Shrinks become a boom business in America

From Charles Bremner, New York

"Ya oughta see a shrink." The advice is New York's catchphrase of the late 1980s. Taxi drivers heave it at each other; middle-aged women proffer it to queue-jumpers in the bank.

Psychotherapy is no longer the preserve of neurotic Woody Allen comedies, a stigma or the butt of jokes. Shrinks are now big business in New York, an everyday service industry, and just about everybody seems to go to one.

The term, no longer pejorative, covers the 300,000 therapists practising across the United States with diverse credentials. Even cars are being advertised with references to shrinks. "I've given up my psychiatrist but I'll never give up my Cadillac," says a deprived-looking man in one commercial.

In the New York telephone book, nine Yellow Pages of psychotherapists vie to cure your over-eating, obsessions, seasonal mood disorder, grief, worrying and other troubles. "Regain control of your life," shouts the ad for the Dimec Centre on 57th Street. "Short-term therapy with long-term results," promises one

One therapist offers success in 10 weeks or your money back

with feelings or sitting around in encounter groups. That went out with the sloppy 1970s. The new therapy aims to fix specific troubles quickly so the patient can get on with being successful, whether at making money or holding together a "relationship". For example, one Boston psychotherapist is advertising "success in 10 weeks or your money back".

Everyone uses the new psycho-speak — terms such as goal-oriented and self-esteem — just as popular speech picked up the Freudian jargon of egos and complexes earlier

in the century. Film stars, for instance, are always "re-inventing" themselves.

"Everybody has been getting their bodies in shape for years," said one Manhattan gym supervisor. "It took a while to realize we had to work out on our psyches as well." Of course, the two have been happily, and commercially, combined. There are plenty of psycho-tennis experts and no self-respecting professional footballer would be without his team psychiatrist.

Least anyone imagine that the craze is confined to self-centred individuals, the big corporations are latching on to the benefits of therapy for employees and adopting some bizarre psycho-techniques to improve commitment to the job.

For your shrink of choice you can shop around widely — and literally since they are often to be found in shopping malls along with shoe shops and lawyers. They offer a plethora of methods from behavioural, cognitive, humanistic and psychodynamic all the way to the more mystical reaches of bio-feedback, dance therapy and communing with UFOs through New Age channels.

Just about anyone can call himself a therapist in most American states. Only a quarter of therapists are certified psychiatrists or clinical psychologists.

Some of the unconventional say they have advantages. "A psychoanalyst cannot predict the future," says Ms Gerri Lee, a New York psychic therapist. "I can see the future. That helps."

The craze has spawned a television trend of the psycho-show

The services of shrinks are not limited to humans. If you want to raise your mongrel's self-esteem, you can take him to a New Jersey outfit which runs sessions of psychotherapy for pets.

Therapy junkies can also take their turmoil to a computer. You fire up your home PC, "interact" with it and await its diagnosis.

The craze has also spawned a television trend — the psycho-show or "tube therapy". With names such as *People in Crisis*, these shows either dissect troubled individuals or

reconstruct cases in the mould of *Divorce Court*, a successful show which scores high ratings with real court-room banes.

The inventors deny charges of voyeurism. "Imagine a TV audience protected by the anonymity of viewing in their living room going through the same question-and-answer process for themselves," said a director of *Getting in Touch*, one of the psycho-shows.

Now the therapy world faces a challenge. Like investment banking, the profession has attracted too many practitioners. Competition is fierce, particularly for the plum openings as a "referral source" with General Motors or similar big companies.

The glut has bred a new industry — marketing classes. These counsel therapists how to sell themselves as appealing and self-confident types, in other words a sort of shrinkery for shrinks.

Some critics think things have gone too far. Mr Bernie Zilbergeld, an outspoken San Francisco psychologist, wrote recently that most patients "would do just as well talking to Aunt Martha or a friend".

US Marine's death in grenade attack claimed by Catalans

From Richard Wigg, Barcelona

Two violently anti-American Catalan independence groups have both claimed responsibility for a grenade attack on an American club in Barcelona which killed a US Marine and injured four of his colleagues.

The bombing was first claimed by the Catalan Red Army of Liberation, and then by Terra Lliure ("Free Country" in Catalan). The Catalan Red Army, which denied the counter-claim, is a recent splinter group from Terra Lliure.

Unlike Eta, the Basque separatist organization, which has rarely attacked US targets, the tiny Catalan nationalist groups have often done so.

The US Embassy in Madrid said yesterday that it was investigating the Red Army's claim, not having received any direct word from any terrorist group. The Spanish police also expressed doubts, suggesting that international anti-American terrorists, including pro-Khomeini groups, might be responsible.

Police were also able to prevent an explosion yesterday at the replica in Barcelona harbour of the Santa Maria, the vessel in which Columbus sailed to America.

They received an anonymous tip-off and defused 22lb of explosives packed in a pressure cooker. The attackers, who had been seen boarding the Santa Maria, fled when a police patrol searched the vessel before dawn.

Terra Lliure had previously sought to blow up the ship, and the explosives found were of a kind used by the group.

The victims of the attack on the bar, aged between 20 and 25, were visiting a place reserved for American personnel on Saturday night while their Sixth Fleet ships were in port for a Christmas break.

It was the first time ships of the Mediterranean Fleet were visiting Barcelona since a serious anti-American incident involving the fleet in April last year.

Marine Ronald Strong, aged 22, from Pennsylvania, died from severe stomach injuries when a man, described by the police as of dark complexion, threw two grenades through the ground-floor club's entrance and ran off into the

narrow streets near the sea-front.

More than 20 people were in the bar and the attack left a pool of blood under the club's Christmas tree.

People living in flats above the bar said yesterday that they had long feared such an attack after the club had been daubed with anti-American slogans, including "Scrap all the US bases".

The attack came at a delicate moment in Spain's relations with Washington. Crucial talks about the future of American bases in Spain are due next month, after dragging on fruitlessly for more than a year.

While Spain is insisting that the United States removes all its 72 F16 jets from the Torrejon base just outside Madrid, leaving the three other US bases intact, the Catalan groups claim they are voicing a popular demand for all US bases to be dismantled.

Moderate nationalist parties, including the regional government, anxious to preserve Catalonia's peaceful reputation, condemned the attack on the US personnel.

Spanish universities face eviction from ivory tower

From Our Own Correspondent, Salamanca

A young Salamanca girl law student let the cat out of the bag: "It's a very Anglo-Saxon system of education and so the minister likes it a lot."

The university reform proposals of Señor José Mari Vall, the Oxford-trained sociologist and Education Minister, are now being hotly debated at Salamanca, as at every other Spanish university.

The country's oldest university has been chosen for Prince Felipe, the heir to the Spanish throne, to study at next year. But before he begins his studies, the university will have embarked on what the minister sees as the most thoroughgoing reform in its more than 750-year history.

The mood is, now the less, sceptical among the 23,000 students and professors in this Castilian university town, where Cervantes was also once a student.

Señor Mari Vall seeks to permeate the academic community that the present rigid and inadequate system, dating from the 19th century, must adapt to the needs of today's changed society.

But as a backdrop to the reform proposals, there are the memories of last winter's student demonstrations against the Education Minister.

To judge by Salamanca, no one knows if once again a student grassroots movement may not sweep aside the careful debate the minister desires within the universities and among students' representatives.

Both the students and the

teaching staff are agreed that Salamanca cannot rest on its laurels.

"I do not want privileged treatment because of Salamanca's past. But the outcome is uncertain; our university must break down its ivory-tower mentality and give Spanish society what it wants," Professor Julio Femenia, the Rector and a noted neurologist in his first year of office, told *The Times* in his magnificent 16th-century-fronted office.

The Rector, aged 39, whom the students' representatives

Reform is the only hope that remains for us in Salamanca

on the governing body helped get elected, regards reform of the university syllabus and teaching methods as well as new degree courses as "the only hope that remains".

Señor Mari Vall, who with the 1983 University Reform Law gave a certain autonomy to the academic community, now wants it to use the new powers to put its own house in order.

Professors must submit to student polls on their teaching performance and to retire at 65 instead of 70; students must work harder (three-year courses instead of five or more years); and quantity of students must give place to higher quality of education and research.

With more than 900,000 enrolled students, overcrowding is one of the worst headaches for Spanish universities. "However, our worst problem," Professor Femenia declared, "is money. Reform plans without money will only create antibodies and I, as a doctor, know that will be very harmful."

Salamanca's annual budget is £25 million, 80 per cent of which goes in to pay salaries. The Socialist Government has promised the universities a 20 per cent increase in their budget for next year.

A sceptical humanist professor said, however, that the Mari Vall reforms risked being "purely formal" unless students and professors are agreed to abandon their old routines and to work harder.

Fewer Spanish students, only 15 per cent of whom are scholarship holders, take temporary jobs during vacations than their European counterparts.

Salamanca professors say the students are right to demand better tuition and to protest against university courses with no job prospects.

Salamanca students' representatives respond emotionally to undergraduate demands from other universities to end university entrance exams. But they also tell us, like the Rector, that unless Señor Mari Vall pours in enough money everyone's future at Salamanca looks grim.

Between 1960 and 1985, Spain's student population increased five times, thanks to a baby boom.

World anger as Afghan war enters ninth year



Children of Afghan refugees living in tents near Karachi, Pakistan, wearing Mujahidin guerrilla uniforms and holding toy machine-guns during a protest rally yesterday to mark the eighth anniversary of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Protests in Moscow broken up by police

From A Correspondent Moscow

Soviet police this weekend broke up two demonstrations organized by an unofficial group seeking to mark the eighth anniversary of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan by calling for a withdrawal of Soviet troops in protests outside the Defence Ministry in Moscow.

Mr Andrei Krivor, a spokesman for the East West Trust Group which organized the protests, said that on Saturday police dragged away the eight demonstrators "after a few seconds" when they held up placards reading "Stop the occupation of Afghanistan" and "Peace to the land of Afghanistan".

Two of the demonstrators were said to have been badly beaten. Five of the eight were ordered to appear in court on "hooliganism" charges, while the other three were released, Mr Krivor said.

On Friday, according to Mr Krivor, two protesters who staged a similar demonstration in the same place in central Moscow were arrested and sentenced to 15 days' detention.

The Soviet Union, which intervened in Afghanistan on December 27, 1979, currently maintains an estimated 115,000 troops there.

Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Soviet Prime Minister, in an interview with the Swedish newspaper *Dagens Nyheter*, said that a settlement in Afghanistan "is not a distant prospect, but a possibility of the near future".

He did not indicate, however, how soon a Soviet withdrawal might start.

The Soviet Union and Afghanistan — which are negotiating a political settlement in Geneva proximity talks with Pakistan — are now offering a withdrawal timetable over 12 months or less.

Mr Ryzhkov stressed that a settlement could be reached "only provided the interference from outside in the affairs of Afghanistan is fully discontinued", referring to the weapons supplied by the United States to the rebels.

Howe demands Soviet pullout

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday marked the eighth anniversary of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan by calling on Moscow to end the "brutal and oppressive war" and withdraw all its troops in 1988.

"Afghanistan is an important test of Soviet good faith. We, the European Community, and the rest of the world look to the Soviet Union to withdraw all their troops in 1988, according to an agreed timetable," he said.

"We have heard much this year about the Soviet willingness to withdraw and end the bleeding wound of Afghanistan. But where are the Soviet deeds to match these words?"

His statement was echoed by an appeal from the Japanese Government.

There were demonstrations to mark the anniversary in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iran

and India, while in Kabul the Mujahidin guerrillas sabotaged power supplies.

Dr Najibullah, the Afghan President, has proposed a government of national unity, but has offered only lower-ranking posts to the opposition. "It is not reconciliation but capitulation which is on offer," Sir Geoffrey said. "No patriotic Afghan could accept it."

Moscow claimed its intervention was requested by the Afghan authorities under the Soviet-Afghan Treaty of Friendship of 1978. Soviet strength is now put by American sources at about 115,000, in spite of a partial withdrawal last year.

After years of UN-sponsored proximity talks, glimmers of diplomatic hope have yet to produce results.

Negotiations are still deadlocked despite offers of

reconciliation made by Afghan authorities and the efforts of Señor Diego Cordóvez, the United Nations mediator, who is scheduled to arrive in Islamabad for further talks next month.

Soviet officials have said publicly that Moscow would be willing to withdraw over a 12-month period. But the conditions are an end to outside support of the Mujahidin and agreement on the shape of a transitional government.

US State Department sources hinted before Christmas that the Administration might be willing to cut off the weapons supply to the Mujahidin in return for an agreed timetable for Soviet withdrawal.

But the British Government is not enthusiastic. Whitehall sources said that the Mujahidin should be encouraged to

carry on fighting until the last Soviet soldier has crossed the border.

There is a tendency in Whitehall to treat Soviet withdrawal as an end in itself. But the shape of the post-Russian government is becoming increasingly important, because of Ayatollah Khomeini's interest in the struggle.

In western Afghanistan, 28 people were killed and 18 other injured on Saturday in an attack on a bus. There were demonstrations yesterday in Delhi, India, in cities across Pakistan, and in Dhaka, Bangladesh, where the Soviet cultural centre was stoned.

Afghan demonstrators attacked the Soviet consulate in the Iranian city of Esfahan on Sunday, the Iranian news agency, Irna, said. Iranian security forces used tear gas and fired in the air.

Leading article, page 9

Rebel rally backs struggle

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

The Afghan Mujahidin rebel movement led more than 50,000 Afghan refugees in a rally yesterday in Peshawar, government seat of Pakistan's North West Frontier Province.

They were supporting the continuing fight against the Soviet-backed Kabul regime and rejecting the UN-sponsored Geneva process for a political settlement of the eight-year-old war.

Maulvi Yunus Khalis, leader of the seven-party Mujahidin alliance, said it sought direct talks with the Soviet Union to end its client Government in Kabul. He

claimed that the Islamic alliance was the sole spokesman for the people of Afghanistan.

Yunus Khalis said the alliance would oppose any other foreign intervention in Afghanistan as well, a stance that observers believe refers to the proposal for a United Nations peacekeeping force in the event of a Geneva settlement.

The rally came the day after car-bombings in Islamabad killed one man and injured 38.

While the Pakistan Government did not blame Kabul directly for the attacks, Mr Nasim Ahmad Aheer, the Interior Minister, said after

Saturday's explosions that a fresh wave of terrorism at the behest of "a state" was expected in Pakistan.

Shops in Islamabad remained closed yesterday to protest against the car-bombings that rocked two shopping areas during the peak evening shopping hour.

President Zia, who on Saturday expressed the hope that 1988 would see the independence of Afghanistan, condemned those who said Afghan refugees were an economic burden on Pakistanis and endangered their lives as a result of bomb explosions.

Letter from El Alamein

Shifting sands of military history

Military history never quite abandons the Western Desert. Forty-five years after the Afrika Corps was driven from Egypt, several hundred American-made M60 tanks and personnel carriers, factory-fresh paint still glistening on their turrets and armoured flanks, are lined up in the sand 50 miles from Alamein, battle pennants tagged to their radio aerials, a line of 155mm howitzers silhouetted above the dunes. It would quicken the heart of any ghostly Messerschmitt pilot should he still fly above the sand.

Ten years ago this mass of Egyptian armour would have been dug in on the other side of the Suez Canal facing the Israelis, the tanks Russian rather than American, the vehicles spread out in revetments to avoid a surprise air attack. But the Camp David peace treaty did for such bellicose dispositions; Egyptian commanders are now reduced to playing their war games far to the west just in case — and it is a big "just" — the Libyans turn their attention from Chad to Egypt.

Unable to savour the glory of future victories, the Egyptians thus display the fruits of that uncomfortable peace. The American tanks, parked haphazardly across the same scrubland and grey desert which Montgomery's Eighth Army held in 1942, are one result of the treaty which Washington sponsored in the auspicious days of the Carter presidency. So are the rusting paraphernalia so blithely presented 50 miles to the east in the fifty villages of El Alamein, behind the dusty, concrete facade of what still goes by the title of a military museum.

Long ago, in the heady aftermath of President Nasser's friendship with Montgomery, it was called the El Alamein Military Museum, dedicated to the memory of those who fought — on both sides — in the great battle whose outcome briefly awakened the church bells of England in a victory peal on Churchill's specific orders. Today, however, a blue-painted hall also honours the Egyptians whose extraordinary victory against the Israelis 16 years ago took their Army through the walls of the Bar Lev line and left them, today, impotent amid the sands of the desert just down the road from Alamein.

Israeli ammunition, rifles, radio sets, shells, grenades and landmines are displayed beside photographs of distraught Israeli prisoners. On a large wooden board an anonymous author has vouchsafed the belief, albeit in poor English, that the 1973 crossing of the canal changed the face of Middle East history and restored Arab prestige amid Israel's humiliation.

But what of that other, earlier victory whose Allied victims still lie in neat rows half a mile away?

Each year Eighth Army and Afrika Corps veterans troop through the dingy rooms of the same museum which are assigned to their battle, past crude papier mâché replicas of Rommel and third-rate oil paintings of Churchill telling the House of Commons of Montgomery's victory. A faded Union Flag hangs in the foyer, the blue turning to grey, opposite a large Nazi banner — perhaps the only large-size swastika flag hanging at any such memorial in the world.

For a country still struggling from the Third World, whose military expenditure has scarcely run to the glorification of other people's victories, it is remarkable that the place even exists in Egypt; but it is a drab, mournful affair whose exhibits are captioned perfectly in Arabic, but so atrociously in English that a stranger might mistake it for a school exhibition.

Montgomery is spelled "Montgomery", a Sherman tank is called a "Chairman", Auchinleck becomes "Ock-nolick", de Gaulle "degoul", Wavell "Wevel".

Yet if the Imperial War Museum were to celebrate an Egyptian military victory with equally few funds at its disposal, would its Arabic captions be significantly more accurate, its political conclusions unbiased? Will those Egyptian generals down the road, with their brand-new tanks and their lack of any military purpose, be better understood by Western historians? Perhaps one day, when the last ageing Desert Rat has hobbled past the decaying exhibits here, the Egyptians will be able to come to terms with their own history and leave the desert to its memories.

Robert Fisk

Microlight pilot vows to continue

Bahrain (Reuters) — Mr Brian Milton, the British microlight pilot who crashed into the Gulf on Friday, said that he was determined to resume his attempt to travel from Britain to Australia in 30 flying days.

He said in Abu Dhabi that his £13,500 plane, Dalgely Flier, had been retrieved after running out of fuel and would be fitted with a new engine.

Indian toll up

Madras (AP) — The death toll from suicides and mob violence by supporters grieving last week's death of Mr Marudur Gopalan Ramachandran, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, reached 63.

Bus disaster

Algiers (AFP) — Thirty-two people were killed and 19 seriously injured when a bus collided with a tractor-trailer near Setif, in eastern Algeria.

Protest ends

Warsaw (AFP) — Thirteen Polish pacifists ended, as planned, a two-week hunger strike staged to demand the release from prison of 10 conscientious objectors to conscription.

Ferry stays

Manila (Reuters) — Dona Paz, the Philippines ferry that sank last week in history's worst peacetime sea tragedy, is unlikely to be salvaged because of the expense, the head of the Navy said.

KGB visitor

Moscow (Reuters) — Mr Viktor Chebrikov, the head of the KGB, arrived in Laos for an official visit, *Tass* said.

Mao's widow said to have been freed

From Robert Gries Peking

Madame Jiang Qing, the widow of China's Chairman Mao Tse-tung, has been released from prison and is living in a villa in the suburbs of Peking, according to the current issue of an authoritative Hong Kong magazine.

In its December 31 issue *The Far Eastern Economic Review* reported that Madame Jiang, convicted in 1981 of persecuting party and state leaders, was no longer in prison.

The magazine said that the other members of Madame Jiang's Gang of Four — Mr Zhang Chunqiao, the former Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Wang Hongwen, a former Communist Party deputy chairman, and Mr Yao

Wenyuan, a former party propagandist — may also be released from prison, but did not say when.

Reporters at the weekend contacted the Ministry of Public Security in an attempt to verify the magazine's story, but officials declined to comment.

The magazine gave no sources for its information about Madame Jiang. A Western diplomat in Peking said at the weekend that unconfirmed reports of Madame Jiang's release from a prison 15 miles south of Peking have been circulating here for 2½ months.

According to the diplomat's sources, Madame Jiang could be residing in a spacious residence a mile away from the Dinyanzi State Guest House in north-west Peking. Madame Jiang, aged 74, and her three accom-

plishes were convicted in 1981 of persecuting party and state leaders in an attempt to gain power during China's chaotic Cultural Revolution (1967-1976). Two years later Madame Jiang's death sentence, with a two-year stay of execution, was commuted to life imprisonment. Since then she and the other members of the Gang of Four have been thought to be in prison in a Peking suburb.

This past January Madame Jiang was reported to be close to death with throat cancer by an official Chinese newspaper, *The Weekly Digest*. News of her release from prison has also been reported in the past.

Born in 1914 to the concubine of a hard-drinking petty landowner who beat mother and daughter, Madame

Jiang joined a theatre troupe and later. As actress Pan Ling, she starred in several films.

Against the advice of Communist Party officials, Mao divorced his third wife and married Madame Jiang. For 20 years she was a housewife, but in the 1960s, with Mao in ill-health and his power waning, she took up his call for a new Cultural Revolution.

After much in-fighting, Madame Jiang in 1969 joined the Communist Party Politburo. From that position she and her confederates hounded "class enemies" and sought to tear down and rebuild China's entire political and artistic establishment.

Mao's successor, Mr Hua Guofeng, jailed Madame Jiang in October, 1976, one month after Mao died.

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan's power-broker defends his war record



Mr Sasakawa: Beneficial of his links with leading gangsters.

Mr Ryoichi Sasakawa, a leading Japanese right-winger who is one of the shadowy figures behind the *Kuromata*, or "Black Curtain", manipulating Japanese politics, has defended his war record publicly for the first time.

Since the war Mr Sasakawa, a staunch admirer of Mussolini and an adviser to the Rev Sun Myung Moon, of the Unification Church of South Korea, has boasted of his relationship with leading gangsters. He has played an important background role in financing right-wing groups, and in financing foreign studies of Japan while campaigning to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his pursuit of "peace".

In an interview with the Japanese press, Mr Sasakawa, the last of the alleged leading war criminals who is still alive, spoke for the first time of his role in Manchuria during the war, when set up the procurement system of the Japanese armed forces. He was later held for prosecution,

but he was released when the occupation authorities' focus switched to an anti-Communist stance.

Mr Sasakawa has been prompted to speak out by documents due to be released soon in Washington, which claim that he would have been ranked as a Class A war criminal in a second round of the Tokyo war crimes trial.

The final prison report on Mr Sasakawa — hardly borne out since — said: "Sasakawa appears to be a man dangerous to Japan's political future... he has been squarely behind Japanese military policies of aggression and anti-foreignism for more than 20 years. He is a man of wealth and not too scrupulous about its use."

Explaining his then fabulous wartime fortune of up to 500 million yen to the *Asahi Shimbun*, Mr Sasakawa said he had been running a cigarette company in China when Captain Isoroku Yamamoto, later to lead the attack on Pearl Harbour, warned him

that war was coming. Mr Sasakawa bought a large stock of cigarette papers, from which he claimed to have made his money.

"They say I tortured prisoners, but I was just acting on orders from above," he added. He said he knew nothing of the Occupation authorities' plan to have him regarded as a Class B or Class C criminal to allow his trial to go ahead.

Asked about his co-operation with the prosecutors, he said: "Those who haven't had any experience in prison usually do not tell the truth, but I can make it clear. I said 'please don't mention my name' and told them the names (of the war criminals) and the roles they played."

Today Mr Sasakawa's face beams out of posters on the Tokyo railway, surrounded by hundreds of children in Africa or opening a new hospital he has just financed, the very essence of the benign world benefactor.

SCOTTISH DIARY

Allan Massie

Goolden touch

The Scottish Conservatives have been accused of not taking local elections seriously; they now control only three of Scotland's 53 districts and none of the nine regions. To remedy this, Lord Goold, chairman of the Scottish Conservative party, has invited constituency chairmen and group leaders to attend a "summit" on January 23 to discuss ways of improving Tory prospects in the district elections in May. One problem, according to an internal report, is finding enough good candidates. While this initiative is welcomed, some Tory councillors, mindful of the party headquarters' stalwart efforts in the general election, when the Tories lost half their seats in Scotland, are not exactly enthusiastic about being folded in Lord Goold's embrace. They look forward, however, to being told how to sell the poll tax to voters.

Weathered

When Magnus Linklater takes over at *The Scotsman* next week he will be only his fourth editor in 35 years. His arrival is eagerly awaited by journalists whose morale was low even before the management locked them out last summer. Though one distinguished former *Scotsman* journalist, canvassed for the job, said he didn't think he would last six months with the present management, Linklater's recent experience of working with Robert Maxwell, as editor of the ill-fated *London Daily News*, should have rendered him shell-shocked. Between Maxwell and *The Scotsman*, Linklater has been working on a biography of the Jacobite leader John Graham of Claverhouse, "Bonnie Dundee", whose Covenanting enemies believed was in league with the devil and could be killed only by a silver bullet.

Hard stuff

By acquiring Mandara St Clements, formerly a department of Mansfield Brewery, the Glasgow firm A.G. Barr becomes the third largest soft drinks firm in Britain behind the international giants Schweppes-Coca Cola and Brivco-Corona. Perhaps the English will now acquire a taste for Barr's most famous product, Irn-Bru, "made in Scotland from girders", as the advertisement says. On a recent visit to Norfolk, my younger children were shocked to discover Irn-Bru not merely unavailable but even unknown. In Glasgow it is valued as an ideal restorative for the morning after.

Michael Acran, who lost his Edinburgh South seat in the general election, has been spending part of his time writing short stories. He is, however, probably too intelligent to be Scotland's answer to Jeffrey Archer.

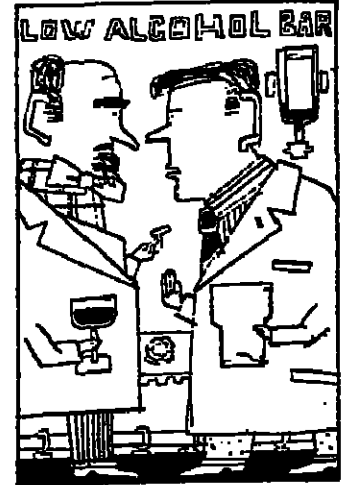
Viva l'Unità

Culturally, the auld alliance between Scotland and France is being upstaged by one between Scotland and Italy. The Italian Institute in Edinburgh is now quite the liveliest cultural centre in Scotland. The association between the two countries was marked recently by the award of an Italian knighthood to Richard Demarco, Edinburgh's impresario of modern art, whose achievements include bringing Joseph Beuys and the Polish Cricot Theatre to Scotland. Demarco was born in Edinburgh of Italian parents. Yet, for all his varied achievements, he ranks only second among Scottish-Italian contributors to the quality of life here. First by some way come the grocers and wine merchants in Leith Walk, Valvona and Crolla, whose range and quality of service leaves Sobho looking provincial.

Big MacD

The publishing event of 1988 in Scotland is likely to be Alan Bold's biography of Hugh MacDiarmid (John Murray). Bold has been a MacDiarmid disciple since he first appeared as a teenage poet. There is a much reproduced photograph of them together in which Bold sports a pork pie hat, happily now abandoned. The book will be an obvious candidate for the new McVitie's prize or the Saltire book award, if the Saltire Society can find a new partner to put up the money now that Royal Bank of Scotland has withdrawn its patronage. Oddly, this year's patronage biography, *Andrew Linklater's life of Compton Mackenzie*, was not even on the McVitie's short list.

BARRY FANTONI



Michael Evans on the astonishing ability of the new breed of satellites

The spies that never sleep

In his talks with President Reagan during the Washington summit, Mikhail Gorbachev let slip a piece of fascinating intelligence information. He indicated that the Soviet Union could now detect by "national technical means" in other words satellites, the presence of nuclear-armed cruise missiles on board American submarines.

Gorbachev's claim highlights the extraordinary battle that the US and the Soviet Union have waged for more than 20 years to improve their ability to spy on other countries from space.

They have always relied on satellites for verifying arms control treaties and, despite the new intrusive on-site inspection agreed by the two countries, the orbiting eyes and ears will continue to play a vital role. Moreover, accelerating technology promises to transform the satellite game. In the US, the designs now on the drawing board will eventually produce a new family of satellites that will be capable of hearing and seeing everything of importance to the security of the West everywhere on earth and in space, day and night, whatever the weather.

The technology of the satellites that today watch and listen from the edge of space and beyond is already awesome. It is an intensely secret business. The American spy satellite programme is covered by a classification system entirely its own. The military are unwilling to acknowledge even the existence of certain projects.

Those trusted enough to work in this world are kept strictly "compartmented" so that no one, not even the director of the Central Intelligence Agency or the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, ever knows the full picture.

According to the American journalist and author William Burrows, who has made a detailed study of space espionage, those who operate the satellites and are privy to their secrets form an unofficial secret society drawn from the various defence contractors, the armed services and intelligence agencies.

The key department is the



An artist's impression of an American military satellite soon after its launch from the Challenger spacecraft in 1983

National Reconnaissance Office, buried inside the Pentagon. It is responsible for the design, development and procurement of all spy satellites, as well as their management in orbit. Officially the NRO does not exist. Yet it absorbs a larger budget than any other intelligence organization, at least \$5 billion a year; and its satellite empire is responsible for a torrent of daily information from outer space that allows the Americans to sit in on events in the Soviet Union as if they had a ringside seat.

Inside the beige-painted Federal Building 213, eight floors down New Jersey Avenue from the Capitol, the National Photographic Interpretation Centre's supercomputers scan the mass of digital imagery sent back from the most advanced American satellite, the latest in the KH-11 series. KH stands for Keyhole.

The computers can take several images of the same scene, shot from slightly different angles. They then turn them, says Burrows, into three-dimensional images of extraordinary depth and

clarity: bridges spanning the Volga, the smokestacks of Sverdlovsk. The smoke coming out of furnaces can even be analysed to reveal what is being burnt inside. Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles being prepared for tests at the Tyuratam site "pop out" to the viewer almost as though he were suspended right over them.

Unlike the Russians, who have launched hundreds of reconnaissance satellites based on relatively simple computer technology, the Americans have concentrated on fewer but more sophisticated machines. The KH-11 is a prime example. Its main telescopic imaging system is reported to have a ground resolution of about six inches, mainly due to the incorporation of an advanced technology known as active optics. As a result, the KH-11 is said to be able to tell one mullah from another in Tehran by the size of their beards. It is also claimed to be able to read the number plates on the cars of key Soviet officials.

What is certainly known is that the KH-11 sent pictures showing that the Chernobyl nuclear power explosion had blown off most of

the reactor building's roof and that a soccer game was in progress in a nearby field.

The Russians, naturally enough, take elaborate deceptive counter measures against the all-seeing satellites. But if they tried to conceal a new missile-launching site by building it only at night, the KH-11's infrared sensors could pick up the thermal radiation of trucks and even individual men as it flew over.

The KH-11 is the leading edge of the American technological spy network that includes both satellites and aircraft, spanning the globe in a continuous hunt for bits and pieces of information that can be fitted into a huge intelligence mosaic. At the lowest level, the manta ray-shaped SR-71 Blackbird aircraft, which is believed capable of flying at 100,000ft with a top speed of about 2,600 mph, can take breathtakingly clear pictures of 100,000 square miles of territory in one hour. At 60,000 miles from earth—about a quarter of the way to the moon—an old spacecraft called Vela looks out for the flashes that signal a thermonuclear explosion.

The new satellites now being designed will have even more powerful sensors and greatly advanced data-processing and transmission equipment. The next generation of satellites will include a spacecraft carrying a nuclear-powered radar capable of peering through cloud cover. Another will be able to track individual aircraft and cruise missiles by following the heat they emit.

The mass of intelligence fed to the computers from outer space helps to forge both American and Soviet foreign policy. Decisions are made based on the interpretation of satellite pictures. As Burrows says, photographs cannot lie, but what they mean is often the subject of intense debate. That will not change, even when the satellites become so sophisticated that nothing can be hidden from their staring eyes.

"Deep Black, The Secrets of Space Espionage, will be published by Bantam Press on January 21 (£14.95).

T.E. Utley

Why I shrink from '88

Why do I enter the New Year (that arbitrary division in history) in a spirit of almost unmitigated gloom? For two reasons, one of which concerns foreign policy and the other our domestic affairs.

The first reason is that the Western world has now surely embarked on a process which may well prove to be irreversible and of which the conclusion will be to leave it prostrate and helpless before the military might of the Soviet Union. There is no mystery about how this came about. We emerged from the last war convinced that in the 1920s and '30s we had made the unimpeachable error of putting national prosperity and domestic comfort before national defence. We resolved that we would never make this mistake again, and, of course, we proceeded to do so.

It was not a recognizable mistake, because it consisted not in disarmament but in the acquisition of new weapons more devastating, but also rather cheaper, than any which had been known before. As soon as the Soviet Union developed similar weapons, we found ourselves committed to the principle of mutually assured destruction. We would allow our national survival to depend on a threat which, if ever we carried it out, would infallibly lead to our own destruction. This was a grievous error, and grievously we have repented it. Not so grievously, of course, as we might have done. The expectation that the West might react to Soviet aggression in Europe by using the nuclear bomb very probably has helped to preserve peace. Had the Russians called our bluff (for bluff it largely was) disaster would have ensued in the shape of Western capitulation.

As it is, however, the West is clearly being induced to abandon its nuclear deterrent. The process will be a long one, but I cannot see how at any point it will be interrupted. The revulsion from these weapons, the perception of the total absurdity of continuing to pile them up will prevail, and the result will be the acceptance by the West of the Russians' vast preponderance of conventional weapons in Europe.

We shall lie at their feet. It could be that they will not in fact assault us. That is Mr Powell's view, and there is much in Russian history to support it; but it could also not be so. If an amiable relationship is to arise between the West and the Soviet Union, some conditions will have to be satisfied. One of these is that the West will have to abandon its moral arrogance. It will have to stop prattling about human rights and implicitly en-

couraging the satellite countries in Eastern Europe to rebel. But this is part of the essence of American foreign policy and it is also part of the moral conviction of Mrs Thatcher about foreign policy.

If we had Salisbury running our affairs, recognizing that there are Soviet spheres of influence and British spheres of influence, we might be all right. But that is not who we have. What we look like having is an absolute abandonment of power and no corresponding reduction in moral pretensions. We shall have, in fact, the worst of all worlds—military weakness and universal moral arrogance. Some of this difficulty will be overcome by hypocrisy by pretending that things are all right behind the Iron Curtain when they are not; but that will not be very good either. I find it to be a gloomy and, indeed, a horrifying prospect.

At home I am not much happier. I deplore the end of Thatcherism. What Thatcherism meant was that we would depend as far as possible on the spontaneous forces of society operating within the rule of law. Its implication was that we would not know what kind of a society would result from this; but it would be the right kind of society because it would have been created rightly; it would be the best sort we could get, because no other method could be better. We might be rich or poor, but we ourselves would have decided which.

I see this faith disappearing. I see a government which thinks it knows exactly how many engineers, poets and artists the country will need, and sets about producing them. I see a government which is attacking the independence of our universities and doing very little that is rational to ensure the independence of our schools. It is really rather a Heathcote sort of government—a government which has lost faith in freedom because freedom did not produce the results it wanted. I also see a government which is inspired by no other object than the impossible one of preserving its own existence infinitely.

What is most distressing about it, however, is its reliance on blatant, brutal, unlawful authoritarianism to improve the Queen's subjects. The way in which it has permitted random breath testing, which Parliament has not approved, to be introduced by the abuse of legislation is a case in point. This is not a government which believes in anything but its own preservation, and it is wholly unworthy of its leader.

A happy 1988 to most of you.

however... Philip Howard

Hollership and scholarship

I have just read a manuscript arguing exhaustively (and exhaustingly) that Homer was born near Cardiff, and that the Trojan War was fought around Cambridge. The Cam is an echo of the Scamander, natch; and the Greek fleet originally sailed across the North Sea to the plains of windy East Anglia. Then the Celts migrated east in a forgotten tribal movement of prehistory, taking their legends and history with them. And the thieving Greeks plagiarized the story. I know that Cambridge people are urban, squat, and packed with guile. But even in my most uncharitable moments I have never thought of them as Trojans: too pleased with themselves.

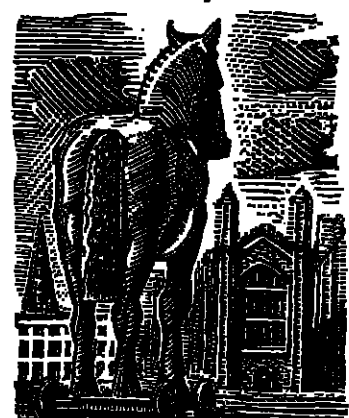
The hype starts with an agent sending a manuscript with a Dear Christopher letter: "Dear Christopher, The implications of this script are so truly sensational that I am going to hold an intergalactic auction of the rights." Publisher sends book out to reader. Reader reports: "Never in all my born puff have I read such rubbish, which comes from the same egomaniac madhouse as *The Lost Tribes of Israel* and the mystical connection between Stonehenge, the Pyramids, and Angkor Wat."

Encouraged by this report, the publisher pays a million for the rights. He then hypes the book to the credulous newspapers, and makes a fortune. What are we to make of this mad world, my masters, where hype and celebrity and materialism drown the truth? One could take the line of the *mal-pensants*, the Old Fogies of all ages, men with fruity faces who have done well out of Thatcherism, and whinge (rightly) that they are looked down on by the *bien-pensants*: that the world has gone to the dogs, and we need a return to Proto-Cambridge Values.

Let us rather praise famous men, proper books, and true scholarship. Pace the orthodoxy of the times, money really is not the measure of all things, and media hype celebrity is dead almost as soon as it is born. When put to it to defend British culture, as can happen if you don't see the Fogies coming, you should argue stoutly that the general level of unhyphenated books and British scholarship is the envy of the rest of the world. Take the Chancellor of St Andrew's University, Sir Kenneth Dover, if it were not impertinence to do so; you know, the *Greek Word Order*, *Aristophanic Comedy*, and *Greek Homosexuality* chap. He is a world figure rather than a celebrity, the most fastid-

ous of scholars but with Gibbonian wit, the most modest of men but fiercely intolerant of cant; he will go anywhere to talk at any level about his subject, our Greek roots. This month he publishes some of his collected pieces over 40 years, showing *Dubrenian* characteristics.

In case you think this sounds a bit deep, I give you some *Dubrenian*. Here is my favourite Dover note, from *Clouds* 977: "It is as if a modern preacher, having thundered 'No girl ever wore trousers in those days' continued



"And sometimes you glimpsed the satiny flesh on the inside of her thighs." He goes on to treat highly indecent matters with high scholarly delicacy, but no beating about the bush. Here is Dover in the preface to his noisiest book: "If I followed my inclination I would replace 'heterosexual' by 'sexual' and treat what is called 'homosexuality' as a subdivision of the 'quasi-sexual' (or 'pseudo-sexual', not 'paraxsexual'). Anyone who wishes to make an impression on me by ascribing my inclination to prejudice must first persuade me that he had made a serious attempt to distinguish between prejudice and judgment." He is a wicked coat-tailor, setting out to vex pigs and the *mal-pensants*.

The great man once rashly ventured into the meretricious media world in *The Greeks*, accurately described by Clive James as "this truly awful series". It was a glorious fiasco, with Dover looking suitably uneasy in a rowing-boat bouncing in Syracuse Bay, constantly interrupted and talked down by his gushing producer/presenter, and by extras in beads and sheers intoning golden Greek in leaden translation. The starlet confesses: "That was a profoundly liberating experience, which I shall probably not feel I need to repeat." When vexed by hype and Fogies and philistines, remember Dover.

"The test of any country wishing to be thought of as civilized is the way it treats its minorities. On the whole, Britain has scored well. Are we to throw it away because the yahoos have scented blood?"

heard, with eager voices urging them on. Homosexuals are being portrayed—portrayed literally as well as metaphorically—as creatures scarcely human; they are being abused not just in the old mocking way but in the foulest terms, meant with deadly seriousness; they are experiencing an increase in discrimination over a wide range of situations; already voices have been raised to demand the "cleansing" of schools, as they have been for the purging of the church.

There was a fine array of these horrible and harmful attitudes on display when the House of Commons, a couple of weeks ago, debated a clause, hastily added to the Local Government Bill, to prohibit the "promotion" of homosexuality. A year ago, the same proposal had been put forward as a private member's bill, and the government had opposed it, on the grounds that it was not needed and that it was impossible to draw the necessary definitions. Now, without any attempt either to maintain that the situation has changed, or to deal with the problem of the definitions, the government is supporting it.

One of those specially supple-spined ministers, always ready to argue that black is white, and indeed blue, green and purple, too, was in charge of the bill; challenged directly to say why the government had changed its mind, he said: "I shall deal with that point in due course." He then continued to the end of the debate without saying another word on the subject. He will go far.

The sound of the avalanche has been clearly heard. The Labour Party ran away from challenging the new clause as prejudicial, unnecessary, discriminatory and liable to arouse hatred (all of which it is), because they were afraid of being attacked as favouring the "promotion" of homosexuality; that left the full attack on the measure largely to such

discredited Labour MPs as Messrs Livingstone and Corbyn, together with Mr Christopher Smith, who is, after all, *parti pris*.

But the legislation is not the worst or the most important item in the rising temperature of hate, except in so far as it will inevitably turn up the flame. And the tragedy of it all is that, after the Arran Act, there had been a slow but real advance in understanding—which, in these matters, is much more important than an Act of Parliament. More and more people had come to see that homosexuality is not evil in itself, nor a threat to heterosexuals, nor disgusting, nor a chosen way of life, nor more likely than heterosexuals to include paedophilia tendencies, nor necessarily accompanied by a limp, a flapping of limp hands or the wearing of women's underclothes.

We are in danger of losing all that, and more. It has been wisely said that the test of any country wishing to be thought of as civilized is the way it treats its minorities. On the whole, Britain has scored well by this test. Are we really going to throw it away because the yahoos have scented blood? Are we really going to return to the days—there are plenty of people who would like us to—when a man like Alan Turing is publicly branded as both criminal and sub-human?

Oh who is that young sinner with the handcuffs on his wrists?
And what has he been after that they groan and shake their fists?
And therefore is he wearing such a conscience-stricken air?
Oh they're taking him to prison for the colour of his hair...
Now 'tis oakum for his fingers and the treadmill for his feet
And the quarry-gang on Portland in the cold and in the heat
And between his spells of labour in the time he has to spare
He can curse the God that made him for the colour of his hair.

Thus wrote A.E. Housman; but when he wrote it, he felt obliged to write in code. Are we really to go back to a time when homosexuals were not simply embarrassed or reluctant to disclose their sexual nature, but afraid to? Well, if we are not to return to such conditions, we should start speaking up; if the price of liberty is eternal vigilance, the price of tolerance is enough voices saying No all at once.

I have just been informed on the highest legal authority that my initial suggestion of solving the homosexual problem with the knife is probably against the law. Bother. But I have an alternative proposal. Let homosexuals be compelled to wear, at all times, a six-pointed yellow star, sewn to their clothing in a prominently visible place.

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THE STILL BLEEDING WOUND

Yesterday was the eighth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Eight years is a long time to wage war on hostile territory. As the Americans discovered in Vietnam, as the Vietnamese have found in Cambodia and as the Soviet Union has realized — but is only now beginning to admit in Afghanistan — it is too long.

If admission of a problem is half the solution, then the eighth year of the conflict has seen progress. Moscow has been more forthright about the difficulties of fighting in Afghanistan than any time since its troops first began to be airlifted towards Kabul eight Christmas ago. Mr Gorbachov has spoken of Afghanistan as his country's "bleeding wound".

The admissions, however, change nothing in Afghanistan. The object of the invasion — the establishment in power of a stable pro-Soviet government and the pacification of the country — is as remote a prospect now as ever it was. 1987 saw more frequent and more ferocious clashes between the Soviet-backed Afghan army and the anti-Soviet mujahidin than any before.

Moscow has marked the eighth anniversary of its invasion with the contradiction between words and deeds that has characterized its involvement in Afghanistan throughout the year. Its troops supported a well-publicized Afghan army offensive around the eastern city of Khost. At the same time, it dropped hints that it might contemplate an earlier date for the withdrawal of its troops than the 12-month period already proposed and might abandon some of its conditions.

There can be no doubt that these two approaches are linked. The question is which is dominant. Has the assault on Khost been designed to provide a victory to mask the greater defeat? Or are the diplomatic concessions intended to placate hostile foreign opinion, so allowing the military solution to be pursued more energetically? The West will have to judge, and tailor its response accordingly.

The evidence so far suggests that Mr Gorbachov is indeed keen to extricate himself from the war, but not — or not yet — at any cost. The indirect "proximity" talks held under UN auspices have periodically seemed close to setting a timetable for withdrawal, only to founder on one issue. Moscow — and with it, Kabul — says there can be no withdrawal unless the West (and the United States in

particular) stops its material support for the mujahidin. The US, and the mujahidin, insist that withdrawal must come first.

According to reports circulating since the Washington summit, the US may have conceded that withdrawal can run concurrently with a halt to arms supplies to the mujahidin. If such a concession has been offered, however, Moscow has not indicated that it is acceptable. Nor are the mujahidin likely to halt their activities just because weapons are less easily obtainable. They are sustained not by arms supplies alone but by their national and ideological cause. That cannot so easily be halted.

For Moscow the equation is finely balanced. The benefits of withdrawal include the military expenditure saved, the domestic rewards to be gained by ending an increasingly unpopular war, and the potential impact on Western public opinion: so long as Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan, Moscow's denial of expansionist ambitions rings hollow.

The liabilities, however, are great. Even if — which is doubtful — Moscow could tolerate a genuinely neutral Afghanistan, would it tolerate democratic elections whose outcome would be unpredictable? And if it could tolerate the elections but not the result, what would it do? And if the present pro-Moscow regime did not survive, retribution could be mounted against its least popular members. Mr Gorbachov has to weigh the effect of sacrificing his most loyal servants to other strategically important objectives.

Eight years ago the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan did as much as anything to convince the West that *détente* was over. But the invasion was as much a symptom of the problems in East-West relations as a cause. With the warmer climate in East-West relations, pressure will mount on all sides for Afghanistan not to be made an obstacle.

So long as Soviet troops remain in Afghanistan and so long as the interests of Afghans — both those still living in the country and those in exile — are treated by Moscow as secondary to its own political and ideological ambitions, Afghanistan will remain an obstacle. The war has now gone on for so long that the mujahidin and their supporters have little to lose from persisting in their cause: the total withdrawal of the Red Army and a government of their choosing. They should not be cheated — by Moscow or anyone else — of accepting less.

GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

Two recent legal decisions seem to the lay mind to tend in opposite directions and to raise engaging moral issues of general interest. One of them is a decision by Mr Justice Popplewell in the Employment Appeal Tribunal concerning four women who had been dismissed from a Liverpool off-licence following the discovery of dishonesty in the handling of business. The point was that the employers, after thorough investigations, had failed to pin the crime on any identifiable employee. Had they a right, therefore, to dismiss all four in order to bring the malpractice they complained of to an end?

Mr Justice Popplewell decided that they had. The innocent, it would seem, must go with the guilty, since there was no way of distinguishing who belonged to which category. For many the incident will revive unwelcome memories of school. The practice of punishing whole classes or houses for crimes the particular authors of which could not be detected used never to cause English schoolmasters and English schoolmistresses the least compunction. The aim of the threat, of course, was to induce the culprit to "own-up" or, less commendably, his comrades to split on him. But, if the threat failed, the collective punishment was remorselessly enforced. How else, it was said, could you run a school?

By the same argument, imperial governments, faced with the need to impose order on troublesome tribesmen justified themselves in bombing or burning villages. In England, however, the liberal conscience has never been quite happy about such methods, though it has sometimes swallowed them. Collective punishments, after all, must surely be abrogations of the rule of law. Some abrogations of that sacred principle can no doubt be justified, but they are only to be accepted under the stress of dire necessity.

Now, how does the argument of dire necessity apply to off-licence owners who find

themselves being defrauded by unidentifiable employees? Clearly, that is not quite a question of *raison d'état*. But being sacked is not quite the equivalent of having your village burnt down. Indeed, in the heyday of liberal capitalism, no one was thought to have a right to his job extending beyond that defined by his contract of employment.

In those days, presumably, the aggrieved owners of the Liverpool off-licence could quite simply have sacked, with due notice, anybody they liked without advancing offensive and potentially damaging reasons for doing so. However, we have, for better and for worse, moved a long way from this conception, hence the existence of industrial tribunals. Sackings have now, in a vast number of cases anyway, to be justified as acts of legitimate discipline or instances of genuine redundancy.

In a quite different case, the Court of Appeal recently decided that five police officers should be allowed to proceed with an action for libel against a newspaper. Their contention was that at least two members of the small team to which they belonged had been accused of dishonourably revealing confidential information to the Press and that, unless and until the names of those whom it had been implied had committed the offence were revealed, damaging suspicion would fall on all members of the group.

What is sauce for policemen is surely sauce for off-licence employees. In both cases the question of suspected guilt by association arises. Each of those unfortunate Liverpool ladies may well suffer, some of them innocently, from the whispered speculations of their neighbours. Of course, businesses ought to be run efficiently, but individual rights may have to take precedence over efficiency — a suitably charitable thought for the holiday season.

FOURTH LEADER

In the Ancient Olympic Games, all the competitors performed in the nude. Not many people know that, and it is unlikely that those who do include the police authorities in Nice, who have just announced that nude jogging is prohibited within the city limits.

Well, there is a difference between a jogger and the Discobolus of Myron, but not all that much difference. The questions begin at the point where the reasons for the curious practice of skin-jogging are considered. (It is far too late to ask why anybody would want to go jogging at all.) In the first place, look at the date; most people would feel that, with winter far advanced, joggers should be putting on heavier track-suits rather than discarding every stitch; did not their mothers tell them "Ne'er cast a clout till the May clouds are out"? Then again, it is legitimate to wonder — of course within strict limits of propriety — whether it is well, comfortable to jog in the nude, at any time of the year. Unfortunately the report does not reveal whether the naturist joggers were of both sexes or only one, and if the latter, which; it does, one might think, make a difference. (Some would cry "Vive la différence" at this point, but others might feel that the limits of propriety would thereby have been overstepped.)

It seems, also, that the police were not themselves sufficiently shocked to act on their own initiative; your average *flic* must have seen more than nude jogging in his time, and would be inclined to murmur "Chacun à son goût". But there had been complaints;

Clouseau had to stop shuffling and take action.

There may be a clue in that the complaints came from strollers on the Promenade des Anglais; perhaps it was felt that fastidious Albion would be more shocked than other nations at the sight of naked joggers. (It is certainly hoped that none of the offenders was English.)

And why Nice? Such behaviour would cause much less comment on the Left Bank in Paris, and in some Montmartre *boites* it would be dismissed as far too tame, while in Marseilles it would make little stir, and in Lyons nobody would even notice, though it is true that that would be because no self-respecting Lyonnais would look up from his plate even if an entire regiment of nudists went marching — or jogging — by.

It is possible that those who made the complaints were disturbed not by considerations of decency but on aesthetic grounds; joggers do tend to be on the plump side (that, presumably, is why they do it), and the sight may have been too much for the more romantic students of the human form. In the United States, of course, nude joggers would now be claiming to have had their constitutional rights infringed, but France is likely to take a more relaxed view of such matters. It is indeed likely that, after a few days enforcing the rule, the authorities will begin to turn a blind eye. In short, the Nice Police dismisseth us.

Lessons of City flights ban

From Mr Kenneth Warren, MP for Hastings and Rye (Conservative)
Sir, The suspension of flights to Paris from London's City Airport (report, December 19) is indicative of a serious malaise in the theory and practice of air traffic control. Why the Civil Aviation Authority permitted passenger flights into uncontrolled airspace used by training aircraft, hot air balloons and low-flying Nato jets, having cancelled the critical surveillance radar at Biggin Hill, is a cause for wonder requiring an answer.

However, what is also revealed is the preoccupation of CAA management with packing more and more aircraft into narrow tunnels of sky when they must know this is becoming self-defeating.

At a recent conference of air traffic controllers, Captain Paul Wilson, of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, recalled that the regime of "airways" was based on an outdated belief that the best way of collision-avoidance was to close off airspace and then concentrate aircraft into controllable streams. This means that in areas of high traffic density, such as south-east England and New York, vast volumes of usable sky are kept void of air traffic.

I suggest that the time has come for our Government and the CAA to try and reverse the humiliating defeat of 20 years ago when, under unfortunate American influence, the International Civil Aviation Organisation rejected the Decca area navigation system.

Today we have the technology to define and control discrete paths for each flight. It must be promoted in the cause of air safety and to encourage enterprises such as the City Airport.
Yours faithfully,
KENNETH WARREN,
House of Commons,
December 21.

Waldheim evidence

From the Minister, Embassy of Austria
Sir, In his letter to you on December 8, the managing director of Thames Television leaves your readers with the impression that Dr Kurt Waldheim or his office are in fact lending their support to the planned "tribunal" by television.

This impression is totally unfounded as such proceedings, whether in the form of a documentary or a mock jury investigation dealing with a democratically elected head of state and during his term of office, are totally unprecedented.

Dr Waldheim's office has but no other choice than to react and respond to the allegations levelled against the Federal President and to provide the critics with documentation of his wartime years as detailed as possible. This action should, however, not be construed as support for or co-operation in the project.
Yours faithfully,
F. HAMBURGER,
Embassy of Austria,
18 Belgrave Mews, SW1,
December 17.

Full of beans

From Mr S. Charles Lewsen
Sir, Having just purchased 2lb of coffee beans, one of the strong "Continental" variety, the other of the mild "Blue Mountain", my wife, moderate in all matters, asked me to mix them, which I have done.

This morning came a letter from my wife's aunt and uncle announcing that they would be passing our way hurriedly on Boxing Day and would have coffee with us. Uncle Geoff likes everything strong. Aunt Vera is of finer fibre.

Reluctant to face the shops again this side of the festival, my wife has instructed me to unscramble the beans. I have unscrambled (i.e., anti-clockwise) the beans, so far with little success. Can someone advise how long it may take to unmix them completely?

With festive greetings,
Yours sincerely,
S. CHARLES LEWSEN,
35 Marlborough Place, NW8,
December 19.

Church and State

From Senator John D. A. Robb
Sir, The special position which the Church of England holds in the unwritten Constitution of England draws particular attention to its difficulties.

The Church of Ireland — still part of the Anglican Communion — was disestablished in 1869 and gained independence and new-found integrity as a result.

In the Republic of Ireland, the special position of the Roman Catholic Church was removed from the Constitution by a people's referendum in 1972. There have never been any Catholic bishops in the Upper House of the Oireachtas and the head of state has, on two occasions, been a Protestant.

Britain now contains many multi-ethnic minorities marginalised sections and disadvantaged regions. It would seem, sooner rather than later, to face up to the exclusiveness in some of the State's most cherished institutions.
Yours etc,
JOHN ROBB, Chairman,
New Ireland Group,
Fountain Centre,
College Street, Belfast,
December 14.

Householders in mortgage trouble

From the Director-General of the Building Societies Association
Sir, Your leader, "Better rented than repossessed" (December 23), contains some confused thinking. It is based on a "report" published by the Institute of Housing that reproduces figures on mortgage arrears and possessions published by this association in August.

It would be helpful if the Institute of Housing could look a little into its own backyard and produce comparable figures on possessions of rented property and rent arrears; this would contribute more to a better understanding of the problem than rehearsing other people's work.

As your leader comments, it is certainly no act of altruism on the building societies' part to minimise the rate of repossession. They do their utmost to avoid compulsory sale. Can there be any better evidence of this than the fact that well over 60 per cent of households are owner-occupiers, while only 12 per cent of those who become homeless do so because they cannot pay the mortgage?

Alone of the mortgage lenders, building societies lend across the whole of the housing market. Other lenders have minimum loan or income requirements (and in some cases restrictions on the ages of borrowers and areas of operation) and, were it not for building societies, a significant number of households would find themselves unable to rent or to buy.

It seems a little unreasonable then to pick on building societies as a suitable source of funding for

Citizens' Advice Bureaux and other similar services. In fact, as their own reports indicate, only a small proportion of the debt problems they deal with involve building societies, and as the Institute of Housing report rightly notes, a major problem is second and subsequent loans taken out for non-housing purposes.

Building societies devote considerable resources to managing their mortgage arrears and this helps explain why, in the face of a massive increase in unemployment, arrears and possessions are at a very low level. A number also work closely with Citizens' Advice Bureaux and other organizations, and this association has made a significant financial contribution to a training scheme being run by the Birmingham Settlement and is also helping to fund a pilot project being run by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux in Manchester.

Your leader's comments favourably on building societies moving into rented housing and certainly this will help ease housing problems. However, it is wishful thinking to believe that this will have a significant effect on the growth in possessions. People who have difficulty in meeting mortgage repayments are likely to have equal difficulty in meeting rents where these are at a market level.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. BOLEAT,
Director-General,
The Building Societies Association,
3 Savile Row, W1,
December 23.

Arms in Europe

From Major-Gen. R. S. N. Mans
Sir, Mr James Elles, MEP (December 12) makes a number of valid points in favour of much more collaboration within the EEC for the design and production of defence equipment.

Pertinent to this theme is the work of the Defence Manufacturers' Association in pioneering the formation of the European Defence Manufacturers' Association Group (Edmag). The founder members are Belgium, France, Spain and the UK.

The aim of Edmag is to provide members with the means of communication to facilitate joint ventures, research sharing, manufacture under licence, co-production and other mutually beneficial activities. It is not only aimed at the manufacturers of main systems but especially at the all-

important second and third-tier firms who supply prime contractors.

Yours sincerely,
ROWLEY MANS
(Military adviser, Defence Manufacturers' Association),
Ivy Bank Cottage, Vinegar Hill,
Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire.

From Mr A. F. Bagshaw
Sir, Propositions: nuclear weapons have prevented a global war for about 40 years.

Assumption: about eight nations possess nuclear weapons.

Question: why does any nation need to stock more than seven bombs, plus perhaps a spare or two? Two small ones were enough to cause the fatal Japanese to surrender in 1945.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. BAGSHAW,
Marchington Hall,
Uttoxeter, Staffordshire.

Pension complaint

From Mr A. T. Clark
Sir, This morning I received a four-page "important message for widows and pensioners" from the DHSS urging me to adopt an easier way to get my pension by credit transfer to a bank or building society at the end of each four-week period.

Why should the Exchequer retain the use of my pension for

four weeks? If it was to be paid at the end of two weeks, i.e., midway in the four-week period, the scheme would be attractive, but there is no way I would agree to draw my pension four weeks in arrears.

Yours faithfully,
A. T. CLARK,
Winterseeds, Station Road,
Shipton-under-Wychwood,
Oxford,
December 12.

Commons insight

From Mr Kenneth G. Braidwood
Sir, In his commendable article (December 16) about the House of Lords and its excellent Leader, Lord Whitelaw, Woodrow Wyatt reflects: "The Lords must be a little similar in atmosphere to the Commons before the Reform Act of 1832... It is a place where arguments are actually listened to and may change voting intentions."

Lord Wyatt echoes the thoughts of Lord Melbourne who, in opposition to that reform of 1832, wrote:

"The present House knowing that there are popular, plausible and prima facie objections to its formation will endure to hear its conduct arraigned and condemned... but a House of Commons elected to what is called theory and principle will never bend to hear itself freely and violently censured, though its acts may possibly be such as to deserve the most acrimonious censure."

Perhaps we should be very wary of proposals to reform the House of Lords to an elected assembly.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH G. BRAIDWOOD,
15 Pembroke Court,
Edwards Square,
Kensington, W8.

Smoking at work

From the Director of Ash
Sir, You must be congratulated for your strong support (leading article, December 17) for the right of non-smokers to be protected from other people's tobacco smoke. I must point out, however, that the employee in the industrial tribunal in question was not dismissed for refusing to stop smoking at work; he had sued his own accord and then sued his employer for constructive dismissal on the ground that he had a "right to smoke" in his workplace.

There are three very simple rules that employers should be aware of in implementing a policy on smoking. They must consult their workforce (e.g., carry out an attitude survey), announce the policy in advance (a maximum of 12 weeks' notice is required by law), and make "emergency" arrangements for any smokers who cannot regulate their habit overnight.

Experience shows that employers following these rules have no difficulty in getting support from the vast majority of the workforce.
Yours faithfully,
DAVID SIMPSON, Director,
Action on Smoking and Health,
5-11 Mortimer Street, W1.

Outlook on the party merger

From the President of the Liberal Party
Sir, When two large political parties decide to seek merger it is hardly surprising that their members have views about what their new party should be called and what should be included in the preamble to its constitution. The Liberal Party and the SDP are not, like our opponents, monolithic parties dictating from the centre. We welcome consultation.

To equate current concerns with disunity between the parties, as you attempt to do (leading article, December 22) is totally to misunderstand the nature of political merger by negotiation. There is already a very broad acceptance in both parties of the draft constitution that has been agreed between the negotiators and on Monday the Liberal Party's National Executive agreed unanimously to put it forward to the Liberal Special Assembly for approval (report, December 22).

The only qualification for this proposal is that the negotiators on both sides should use the remaining period of consultation to see whether further improvements to the title or preamble are possible.

Dr Owen was not right about merger. By opting out he is condemning himself to a political wilderness. In contrast, I predict that within two months the merged party will be a major political force to be reckoned with.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN SLADE, President,
As from The Liberal Party,
1 Whitehall Place, SW1,
December 22.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 28 1860

The Treaty of Peking, ending the second China War (1857-60), was signed on October 24. To punish the treachery of the Emperor the British envoy, Lord Elgin, ordered the destruction of the Summer Palace.

CHINA. THE PEACE OF PEKIN.

We have been favoured with the following most interesting and important letters from Headquarters.

"...The Prince of Kung, by almost daily letters and messages, was expressing his readiness and anxiety to come to an early settlement of all difficulties, but a great retribution awaited the Emperor and the Chinese Government for their acts, before such a request could be acceded to..."

"There seemed two ways of arriving at this result; one was by capturing and holding the Imperial city of Peking; the other was by the destruction of Yuen-Ming-Yuen, the favourite Palace of the Emperor, and where the cruelties to the prisoners were first commenced."

"At Yuen-Ming-Yuen the tablets of the dynasty were preserved, on the safety of which, in the opinion of the Chinese, the existence of the present reigning family depends. By the people the Palace was held in great veneration from its being the constant residence of the Emperor, and the place where all the great princes and nobles of the empire assembled; the gardens and buildings were famed for their beauty throughout China, and immense sums were expended yearly on their maintenance. It was the scene of all the intrigues and gossamer of the Court. It was there that the great receptions and levees were held, and there that the Emperor held his private audiences, and where the cruellest of his acts were committed. He mixed on more familiar terms with those invited than we imagined could exist in the ceremonial Court of Peking, an obedience to the Emperor on his entering and leaving the hall of reception being the only ceremony performed."

The high walls and open spaces that surround the Imperial city inside Peking, separating it entirely from the city itself, would, to a certain extent, have protected the people from injury in the event of an attack having been made upon it, but the Allied Commanders-in-Chief felt themselves precluded from adopting this course on account of the conditions they had granted to the Chinese on the surrender of the An-tung Gate. The destruction of Yuen-Ming-Yuen was therefore finally decided on.

"Lord Elgin and the Commander-in-Chief both addressed the prince of Kung by letter, informing him of their decision and the reasons that influenced them in arriving at that decision. Lord Elgin, in terms of great severity, pointed out the treachery that had characterized the conduct of the Government of China from the first moment of their attempting to negotiate at Tien-tsin to their last act of perfidy in violating a flag of truce and murdering those captured while under its protection — that, in consequence of this conduct, he had called on the Commander-in-Chief utterly to destroy Yuen-Ming-Yuen, as being the spot where the cruelties to the prisoners first commenced..."

SIR MELFORD STEVENSON
An outstanding and outspoken judge

J. J. ...
 G. Richards
 M. W. ...
 W. A. Stephenson

THE ARTS

The feeding of a hungry genius



When William Walton was a struggling young composer, he depended on the Sitwell family for sustenance and subsidy. In the first of three extracts from the forthcoming biography of her late husband, Lady Walton

describes how he repaid them by composing *Facade*, a setting for Edith Sitwell's verse

Osbert Sitwell and his friend David Horner seemed to me to be the first of William's friends to be genuinely pleased that we had married.

Osbert had Hanoverian features, with a large nose and heavy chin, and was extremely well-mannered when he felt inclined to be courteous. But I had heard that he could be very rude and crushing if he felt he'd been offended or treated with less respect than he thought he was entitled to. He was a bit of a tease, sometimes a rather cruel tease. I got the impression that he had, now and then, made life rather difficult for William.

William had first met Osbert's younger brother, Sachie, soon after the end of the First World War. Undergraduates had started to come up to Oxford and Sachie Sitwell and Raymond Mortimer were at Balliol; Sachie was four or five years older than William. When I met Sachie, Sachie, to all who knew him, I was delighted. Tall, scholarly, kind, and humorous, he always seemed to me to be above such things as their family quarrels.

Sachie, according to William, had not attended a single lecture the whole time he spent at Oxford. He was in a rebellious mood, and had become extremely left-wing. He had often declared his admiration for Trotsky, only because Trotsky had promised to take the Russians out of the war. This he was most concerned about since 60 per cent of his friends had been killed in the war.

Sachie was interested in meeting anybody talented and he discovered that William was supposed to be the most talented undergraduate in Oxford. William was then young and inarticulate; he was pale, very thin, and looked delicate and quite unworried. He told me that he had been fed so little during those war years that he started to grow in height only after the age of 16. Sachie used to ask William out to luncheon, despite the food shortage and what Sachie termed the fearful nastiness of it.

Then in the spring of 1920, while William was still at Oxford, the Sitwells asked him to go with them on a trip. His own family had never been abroad and he liked re-telling what his journey had been like. How uncomfortable trains were in those days when there were no sleepers; they had to share a carriage with two priests. It poured with rain all the way through France up to Modane, making him think "Great God! Oldham again!" Then the train went into a tunnel, and when it came out on the Italian side, they found the most marvellous sun. He never recovered from this moment of revelation, the shock of seeing such brilliant light. They slowly wound their way down to Amalfi, where the Sitwells stayed.

William was given the use of a small upright piano in a back laundry room. When he had started to compose, he had not used a piano and deplored giving in to everyone telling him that it was a mistake not to use a piano, as he ought to "hear" what he

wrote. He had perfect pitch and had no need of a piano, but in the end he started to use it. He liked to say that it was this difficulty of playing the piano that stopped him from writing as much as other composers; he didn't like the sound, and it was too much trouble.

At the time, William hoped a couple of months would be enough for him to find something to do. In fact he stayed with the Sitwells for 15 years. The Sitwells didn't want him to go to a music college: they didn't approve of that kind of training, because they thought it turned out composers of doubtful status. Everybody William knew seemed to be able to play the piano or the violin or could sing or do something. But he could not earn his living. To survive William became a scrounger from Osbert, from Gerald Berners (14th Baron Berners) and from Siegfried Sassoon, and he would continue to do so for quite a time.

I asked William whether Osbert had ever made advances to him while he was living in their house. He replied, that yes, he had once done so, but it did not create an awkward situation. William told Osbert that that sort of thing was not his cup of tea, and he never asked again.

Osbert could be very funny. He liked women as friends, but I don't think he was ever in love with a woman, although William knew of various women who were certainly in love with him. Not like his brother, Sachie, who William told me, was always in love and had desperately wanted to get married, probably to get away from the house at 2 Carlyle Square. Osbert had not approved of his getting married at all. Partly because of this, William thought the atmosphere at Carlyle Square was often strained.



At the cultural centre: Walton (extreme right) with the Sitwells, Osbert, Edith and Sachieverell. They introduced him to such people as Diaghilev, Beecham and Gershwin

Life with them was great fun. They knew everybody who was anybody in those days, in music, theatre, and high society, from Walter Sickert, Lady Cunard, Lord Berners, Sir Thomas Beecham, and Diaghilev to the younger set like Gershwin, William's great pal Constant Lambert, and the novelists Peter Quennell and Ronald Firbank. Indeed Carlyle Square was a centre of cultural excitement. William realized that the Sitwells were also intensely ambitious, and deeply concerned with the arts they practised.

When the Sitwell brothers bought the house in Carlyle Square, and William went with them, he found that quite a few musicians gathered there. Some William didn't like very much; others, like Constant Lambert and Angus Morrison, became great friends.

Constant Lambert was completely at ease with all three arts: music, literature and painting. His father had been a painter and he had been brought up in a painter's world, although he could not draw. He thought of music in terms of the other arts and was incredibly well informed. William would often pick his brains as he himself was very much concentrated on music.

Angus Morrison described to me how a challenge would spur William into writing a new piece. When he could not make up his mind about what sort of music would suit Edith's poems, he was told by the Sitwells that if he

didn't get down to work, they would ask Constant - hence *Facade*.

Both Constant and William had great success with women, but William did not have many girlfriends as he probably couldn't afford them. Constant was attracted to exotic females, he fell in love with a Chinese film star and married a half-Chinese beauty. William was godfather to their son K.H., who became the manager of the pop group The Who. Both father and son had tragic lives. William voiced great concern about Constant, who even when young was already drinking much too much and would become an awful problem to his friends. When I met him in Lowndes Cottage he chuckled a great deal but the jokes were incoherent, yet William had once thought him the witziest man he had ever come across.

William loved going to everything. He went a lot to the old Lyceum Theatre, for instance; but because he was always broke, he had to scrounge the five shillings for a night out on the town that he could never pay back. The trouble was that to be a composer in those days made life very difficult. He would have starved, really, except for the luck of meeting the Sitwells, because he hardly made £50 a year.

Indeed to the end of his life, despite various ups and downs in his relationship with them, William never stopped being thankful to the Sitwells. It amused him to recall that the three siblings Edith, Osbert and Sachieverell, were supposed to be the result of exceptional family planning on the part of their parents. Sir George, who spent months preparing for each act of procreation.

He would read books of especial beauty and artistic merit, recite poetry, and contemplate flowers, trees, and exotic colours, for hours. Then, having eaten what he thought was the appropriate diet,

he would announce to his wife, Lady Ida: "I am now ready", and the great act would be undertaken. Hence, Edith, Osbert and Sachieverell.

The L-shaped first-floor drawing room in Carlyle Square was quite small so it couldn't hold more than a few invited guests for the first performance of *Facade*. It was Sunday, January 24, 1922; William was 19 at the time. He conducted and had only four players, a cellist, Ambrose Gauntlet, a clarinetist, a Mr Paul Draper who, after looking at his part, is said to have asked William if a clarinetist had ever done him an injury! Herbert Barr played the trumpet and Charles Bender probably played the percussion instruments.

Osbert, who found recitation embarrassing, had the idea of putting the whole thing behind a curtain. He had Frank Dobson, a painter friend of his, design a

came later. The invited audience of between 20 to 30 were flabbergasted. William, who had hardly ever heard his own music performed, used to say the audience had talked all the way through the recitation and had come to the conclusion that both Edith and he were off their heads.

Mrs Robert Mathias asked them, two weeks later, to do it again at her house in Montague Square. Then, the following year, the Sitwells thought they'd do it, one afternoon, at the Aeolian Hall, in public. Few could hear and as a result, the performance was raucous and crude. William was very upset by the way the audience behaved, booing and hissing. He had not imagined people could react so violently and was shocked by this horrible reception.

Noel Coward was in the audience and wrote a little parody on it entitled "The Swiss Family Whittlebot", in which the poetess Hermia Whittlebot recited her poems with her brothers, Gob and Sago. Her manic script included lines such as, "My brothers and I have been brought up in Rhythm as other children are brought up on Glaxo..."

William concluded that the three Sitwells were pleased with the uproar caused by the performance, especially Osbert, who liked a little notoriety and playing at being the bad boy of the family. But looking back, he would say how it had embarrassed him and how every time *Facade* was performed, there seemed to be a row, egged on by Osbert. The reviews were pretty awful but the general feeling of indignation caused by the event, made *Facade* famous overnight.

William Walton: Behind the Facade is published by Oxford University Press on February 14 (£12.95).

TOMORROW
Part 2: Olivier and the music for *Henry V*

After-dinner inspiration



In a name: someone had said Edith Sitwell was clever, but only a facade

William had, of course, met Edith, Osbert's older sister. She was 10 years older than Sachie and an accomplished pianist. Edith had written a whole group of poems as a sort of technical exercise.

The first one was *Hesperides*. She would recite them in front of a lot of their friends and either she or Sachie, perhaps it was both of them, suggested they'd be much better with music. William agreed, but couldn't quite see what kind of music. In those days there was a lot of musical experimentation going on by composers like Stravinsky, Ravel and Milhaud, works such as *Ragtime* and *L'histoire du soldat*.

It struck William that one of them, Stravinsky's *Berceuses du chat* or even *Coucrades*, the songs by Pontien with words by Cocteau, could be a model. So in November and December 1921 he worked on the poems to make a little after-dinner entertainment, which Sachie called *Facade*. Someone had said that Edith was clever, but only a facade, hence the title.

The Royal Family, broadcasting hit and myth

TELEVISION

A BBC court correspondent has been dismissed for a breach of embargo on the Queen's speech. The suggestion has been made that a recent decline in the popularity of the Royal Family is attributable to their participation in a charity round of *It's A Knockout*. In this climate *The History Of Royal Broadcasting* (BBC2, Saturday) seemed ripe for repeat.

With the endearing arrogance of the Corporation at its most self-important, the programme neglected ITV's contribution to our view of the Royal Family and instead decided to rest upon its archives.

At its best the programme was a dignified wallow in Royal nostalgia; elderly craftsmen had tears in their eyes as they recalled the emotional peaks of Royalty's relationship with the camera and microphone.

Until the accession of our present Queen, this relationship included a great deal of superstition. The Prime Minister complained that there had been too much

"boosting" of the monarchy to an artificial level of importance by the modest media of the 1930s and in consequence the BBC accumulated a fat file of rejection letters from the Palace. The war, and the urgent need for a strong national identity, did away with such inhibitions.

There were endless anecdotes to embroider the tale: the commentators of Lord Reith's era recalled the command to wear morning dress for all Royal broadcasts. The first woman was directed to become court correspondent in the 1950s after Vyvian Vaughan Thomas's fashion sense proved so feeble that he described a Royal frock as being "dark black". By the 1960s, Kate Adie was appointed to the post with the warning that the Royal Family were a hard news item: one word about frocks and she would be fired.

There is a fascinating documentary to be made about the creation in the media of the Royal Family as public personalities but this programme had no ambitions in that direction. It had not been updated to include any of this year's developments. An early Channel 4 series about crown



Is Roger Moore showing a certain unease with Dame Edna?

and camera asked some useful questions about the panoply of the modern monarchy and its uses but this programme did not enquire any further.

However, it was interesting to note that the pre-war Royal commentators frequently chose the word "incredible" to describe the sight of the monarch to their listeners, implying a sense of humble amazement that the Royal person should be thus available to be seen by all.

"Incredible" now seems a fair description of Dame Edna Everage who, as the egotistical old megastar we all know and seemingly love, constructed her own spotlights in *The*

uncomfortable. To be fair, the monstrous creature had not only produced an early photograph of the film star modelling knitting patterns but had also brandished a shapely yellow article in cable stitch which she claimed to have made herself from the pattern. The star would plainly have preferred to hang by the heels over a tank of hungry sharks than confront this particular memory. But of course, part of Dame Edna's genius is to carry the conventions of the talk show format to extremes and a good host should needle guests unmercifully in search of personal revelations.

A Bit Of Fry And Laurie (BBC 1, Saturday), was an amiable half hour with Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie, two comedians whose gifts, like Dame Edna's, include an acute sense of kitsch but whose style is considerably more restrained. They took us one step into the foreseeable future with a sketch about the newly privatized police force offering smart uniforms, luxurious offices, free coffee and glossy brochures to the credit-card clients of their crime fighting services. Like most other pillars of born-again British capitalism,

"*Brilliant pic*" proved no more efficient than the early state institution which it replaced.

Clive James In Japan (ITV, Saturday) concluded its tour of the exportable clichés of Japanese culture with Sumo wrestling and the tea ceremony. Clive James's observations are unfailingly amusing and his willingness to make an idiot of himself for the benefit of the cameras is lovable. However, this pair of programmes seems to have been made with the curious ambition of conveying as little information as possible at the greatest possible expense and effort.

The final conclusion was that Japan was beautiful. Japanese society was tough and Japanese culture was like a soothing hot towel to revive the psyche. This sounded hideously patronising to both the audience and the subject.

Reithian broadcasting ethics were notoriously weak on the subject of intellectual condescension but if archives are good for anything more than nostalgia, they must provide a useful demonstration of alienating an audience by talking down to them.

Celia Brayfield

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MONDAY PAGE

Too many books in the kitchen

Recipes for disaster, or blueprints for ambrosial meals? Maggie Drummond watches as a team of mini chefs gets to work with a selection of cookery books for children

Nanette Newman has upset my daughter. "Cooking for beginners", reads the front of her children's cook book *The Fun Food Factory* (Studio Publications). Lucy Walters isn't a beginner. Good Lord, no. Like most nine-year-old girls, she has had more cook books than hot dinners and this Christmas she received even more.

Writing a children's cook book is a cute idea, and judging by the number of publications, quite a lucrative one. But if you were on the receiving end of demands to make Little Miss Sunshine smiling tea-time biscuits (*Little Miss Cook Book*, Thurman Publishing) at four o'clock on a Christmas Day when everyone was still getting over lunch, you probably feel it should be a hanging offence.

I have always had a suspicion that these books are the most given, least used publications on the market. So it is high time that we subjected them to thorough-going consumer analysis. "All right," I said to Lucy and her elder brother Daniel. "I invite some friends for the afternoon. You choose some recipes from the books and you cook yourselves tea." We assembled eight children's cookery books and six junior chefs — two boys and four girls. They had to try recipes that they had not cooked before, and get to the oven stage more or less on their own. I would merely sit back and take notes. Well, that was the theory. "Ha ha," said my husband, who had urgent business in the garden.

Lucy knew exactly what she wanted to make — the Party Express cake from Marks & Spencer's *Teddy Bear Cook Book*. This recipe wasn't so much cooking as cholesterol sculpture. It was composed of ready-bought angel cake, Swiss rolls, liquorice all-sorts and numerous sweet and sticky items from which a train was constructed, covered lavishly

with chocolate icing. If you didn't get sugar poisoning reading the instructions, you certainly suffered brain sickness trying to understand them.

The first step read: "Cut off a 2.5cm (1in) slab of angel cake. You need a piece about 15cm (6in) long and about 7.5cm (3in) wide". Confused? It foxed the children and it certainly foxed me. The list of ingredients did not give the size of angel cake required — the standard one I bought was just enough to make the main engine not the two trucks that were supposed to go behind it. Tears were only averted when we managed to glue the cake and the missing inch together. That recipe should clearly go back to the drawing board, although it looked spectacular once the girls had iced and decorated it.

The next semi-disaster was Victoria's chocolate fudge from the *My Fun To Cook* book by Ursula Sedgwick (Hamlyn), which on the plus side has each stage illustrated and uses big red asterisks to show when an adult should be on hand. Alas, Victoria ended up with hardly enough goo to cover the surface of the item, despite putting in the right amount of everything. But nothing involving brown sugar and chocolate together can be an entirely lost cause, and it was all swiftly gobbled up. A post mortem suggested that things had gone awry after the vital boiling stage, where it said "Now act quickly" in bold type, but did not explain why.

By this time the team had divided up neatly, with all the girls round the breakfast-room table mixing away like the witches in *Macbeth*, and the two 11-year-old chaps dreaming up savoury dishes in the main part of the kitchen.

"I think we can improvise a little," I heard Gregory say, and before I knew what was happening the Sombro Dip from *Kaas in the Kitchen* by Wendy Norman (Debrett's) was offered for inspection, none the worse for the lavish



Bowled over: part of the production team enjoying the experience of employing the gravitational method of testing firmness in beaten egg whites

helpings of Worcester sauce apparently added to the recipe.

Nothing else was made from *Kaas in the Kitchen* which had the good idea of dividing dishes by national cuisine, but didn't illustrate anything — an essential ingredient in a child's cook book.

For the main dish, the boys wanted to make their favourite food: pizza. A proper pizza, thank you very much, not the pizza faces with shreds of carrot and hair or the so-called pizza made, you believe, with self-raising flour... They wanted the real thing that you see being flung around in *Pizza Express*.

The basic pizza recipe from the *Usborne First Cook Book*, by Angela Wilkes and Stephen Cartwright, proved acceptable and manageable — they even managed the tricky business of the yeast and the kneading by themselves. Step-by-step illustrated instructions were excellent — later some hamburgers were made from one of the recipes which looked a trifle grey, but were eaten with enthusiasm.

The *Usborne* book had the great virtue of giving dishes their proper names. Not

And why, oh why, are none of these books produced with wipeable plastic pages??

those irritatingly twee titles that abound in children's cook books and actually put the children off. No one was inspired by either "Vampire Bread" or "Pepper Protest" from *Let's Cook It Together* by Peggy Brusseau (Thorsons). It is a vegetarian book, which is usually a plus for children, but completely spoilt by the daft recipe titles and the colour pictures of what the dishes are supposed to look like being in a completely different section to the recipes.

No one was interested in trying anything gimmicky either. The seemingly irresistible *The Chocolate Cook Book* by Jean Adams (Blackie) was ignored — all the children wanted to make grown-

up food, with the exception of my daughter and her calorie-laden train, and there were absolutely no takers for Little Miss Scatterbrains spaghetti and tomato sauce (*Little Miss Cook Book*).

Few of the books were much good at explaining technique; when it comes to beating egg whites, children's arms get stiff long before the eggs. And Nanette Newman's *Fun Food Factory* seems to have a high proportion of recipes that involve bringing eggs or cream to the peak of perfection. Samantha made the carrot pudding which turned out very well, with a little help on the egg whites. "How stiff do they have to be?" she asked quite reasonably; the book left her

none the wiser. Ursula Sedgwick's *My Fun To Cook* book did offer advice, though whether one should applaud the suggestion that the small cook should "beat until you can turn the bowl upside down without the egg whites falling out" is debatable.

The *Fun Food Factory* is rather good (ring-bound so the pages stay flat, other publishers please note), full of sensible recipes laid out in illustrated steps as with the *Usborne First Cook Book*. But it does not have essential information on what things like beating and cooking actually mean, not to mention the correct way to grease a tin (one team member improvised with a tea towel). And why, oh why, are none of these books produced with wipeable plastic pages?

The main ingredient for most of the recipes is several pounds of parental tolerance and the wisdom to lay down newspapers before the fun really starts. These points will not be overlooked, I promise you, if I ever produce a cook book of my own, the opening line of which will read: "First beat the children".

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The woman behind the lines

Even after so long and so much, her hands are still beautiful: smooth and slim and elegant, unravaged by age. Their suppleness and steadiness were vital to Yvonne Corneau's success in one of the most dangerous jobs of the Second World War — a wireless operator for the Special Operations Executive in occupied France.

If you haven't heard of Corneau it is simply because she was so successful. In fact it is a source of irritation to the 77-year-old heroine, living modestly in a flat in former War Office buildings "somewhere in London", that the failures were heaped with posthumous fame while she settled into comparative obscurity, despite her impressive collection of medals.

"Why is the fuss made of those who made a mistake after two or three months?" she asks.

She speaks darkly of those who make money out of the martyrdom of others by producing books that "embroider their importance", but refuses to contemplate writing her own to set the record straight. But the unparalleled operative who survived an incredible 13 months at the nerve-centre of the British resistance movement in France has relaxed her principles enough to serve as an adviser to *Wish Me Luck*, London Weekend Television's saga of women agents in "something like the SOE", which comes to our screens next month.

The team behind it includes Lavinia Warner and Jill Hyem, creator and writer, respectively, of the highly-acclaimed *Yenka*. And the two leading characters — played by the young actresses Kate Buffery and Susanna Hamilton — are both based, with dramatic licence, on Corneau. Like so many of the women hand-picked for special sort of foreign service, Corneau had a privileged background. She attributes her later luck to a widely travelled and well-disciplined youth.

"I was born in China, lived in France and Belgium, had a French governess, a Belgian teacher — if you know different nationalities well you get to find out how they think and when you learn a language young you pick up the accent much better."

The ready voice occasionally trails off somewhat vaguely, but the brain inside the fluffy Miss Marple features is razor sharp. Corneau's deceptively fragile-looking

Yvonne Corneau was a wireless operator during the Second World War — in occupied France. Now her story is being used as the basis of a television series



Unsung heroine: Yvonne Corneau (left) and a scene from LWT's *Wish Me Luck*



frame is fit from daily climbs up and down the four flights of stairs to her flat — and she still goes skiing every winter. It angers her that a recent mugging has impaired her failing vision still further, but she reads voraciously — devouring everything printed and broadcast on the SOE.

For her heroism she has received nothing, she insists, apart from such honours as the MBE, the Legion d'Honneur, the Croix de Guerre and others, which from the French government at least, carry a small annuity.

It was the death of her husband, an Englishman of Belgian descent called Charles Corneau, in 1940 that precipitated her decision to join up. "I had no money and nowhere else to go," she says. "My five-year-old daughter was safe in the country, but I knew I would never be able to provide a home for her as long as the war was on."

She is not certain when her daughter found out what she did during the war. "She never asks me anything about it," Corneau, now a proud grandmother, says flatly. "She came

once to drive me to a lecture I gave at a school, listened, but never gave any comment. The children always ask 'How many Germans did you kill?' But I explain that I didn't kill any; you see, that would have attracted too much attention."

She was already a crack shot when she was sent for her training. "They tried to find out if you could shoot straight. I did. We did a lot of shooting before the war. There was a 16-week course with PT, shooting, the codes and ciphers, the lab work, the parachute..." she reels them off like the morning's shopping list.

She had been recruited because of her bilingual abilities. At her first, obscure interview she was asked if she would contemplate returning to France. The question seemed harmless enough. "Since it was then only half occupied I answered 'yes'. I didn't realize until much later what they actually meant." But she had a sneaking suspicion, she admits, long before she dared to voice it even to herself. "I parachuted into

France in 1943," she remembers, "100 kilometres north of Bordeaux. I was with the first group of women sent, and the only one who parachuted in." She had been given *carte blanche* to create her own wardrobe. Since French clothes were unobtainable, she went off to Jaeger to buy a beautiful barathra skirt and jacket, and a wool overcoat which was much too fine for the rough farm region in which she found herself.

"I had overalls on top, and a small suitcase with a change of clothes. There was no time to be nervous. There was a 'reception committee' of five men waiting for me — their wives were giving a huge party at the farm with plenty of wine so nobody heard the engines."

Not all the recruits made it that far, of course. "And some were sent who never should have been," she adds. "There was one poor Indian girl — she never should have been sent — she died her hair red but it didn't work, not in the least... I've got no right to blame anybody, but she should never have been sent. It put those working with her in danger, too."

Her beloved "Boss", who died only recently, was an English colonel with an appealing French accent "but a lovely command of swear words". When they travelled together she had to do all the talking, but he had "a look in his eyes that made everyone obey him instantly". He had demanded "a man over 35" to be his wireless operator, "and when he heard he'd got a 33-year-old woman, he cursed". But it surprised them both how the French farmers took orders from an Englishwoman.

She relied on her instinct — "I often thought 'not that train', or 'not that way'" — and her cool nerves. Radio operators did not dare stay more than three nights in any one place, and were particularly vulnerable when carting their 45lb equipment around in bulky suitcases. One day a German ripped open Corneau's radio case and demanded to know what the machine was. "Radio," she answered fearlessly — praying that her confident manner would make him interpret the word in its other context, as an X-Ray machine.

The bold bluff worked. "Germans respond well to assurance and orders," is all she will comment, refusing to consider what might have happened. "Once you understand how different nationalities think it's easy. And I'm an optimist — I don't like to dwell on unhappy things."

Women who played heroic roles during the war tended to react in two distinct ways afterwards, Corneau theorizes. "Those who were married told tales to their husbands who were so proud of them that they lived on that period for the rest of their lives. Those like me who weren't married made another life. Afterwards I realized I must try to make it up to my daughter for the time I had left her: that was my first consideration."

The best thing about her wartime experience, she has decided, is the lifelong friends she has made. She returns each year — sometimes twice a year — to France to strengthen old bonds.

Her most overpowering memory? "The boredom," she says, incredibly. Much as she wishes *Wish Me Luck* success, she hopes it will be able to capture some of that vital but unsung essence of espionage.

Victoria McKee

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A thorn by any name...



sounding labels work in the same sort of area there is a tendency to think that they are all the same person.

For years, I thought that Ian Trethowan worked 25-hour days, which was because I got him mixed up with two other brilliant people in television, Alastair Milne and Donald Baverstock — they became, in my mind, a composite, vaguely Scottish, desperately competent programme maker who also ran the whole show.

It took a while to get Peter Ackroyd and Peter Carey sorted out as they both wrote good and rather peculiar prize-winning novels at about the same time, and I have great difficulties with feminist poets who are all called Michele or Michèle.

The worst luck that can befall you is to be given a name that already belongs to

someone who will one day become a megastar. I know a man, a leader in his professional field and a credit to the nation, who has the same name as an internationally famous playwright. Because of this, creepy coincidences have marked, if not marred his life.

He followed the playwright to the same school, took up a post at a university where his namesake had been writer in residence. Recently, he was on a plane, travelling to a place where he was about to conduct a particularly complicated court case and feeling quite pleased with himself until the air hostess came down the aisle to take a peek at the famous writer. Although he uses his middle initial, he feels that his name is not his own.

Names matter terribly, as an English vicar discovered when he sent a story to the publishing firm, Virago, under an Asian, female pseudonym. It was a moving account of a young Asian girl's experiences in an English school, but Virago cancelled publication when they discovered the author's true identity.

I find this strange. If the story seemed like a genuine account of cross-cultural complications and produced an emotional response, why should it matter if the author is called Patel or Featherstone-Haugh? But then it mattered very much that Romeo was called Romeo. If he had been called Tom, Dick or Harry, everyone might have been happy ever after.

Home and away

From Mrs Judith Barber, Collegiate Crescent, Sheffield

Two points about your piece "Home truths for home managers" (Monday Page, December 14). Firstly, it is a mistake to assume that any woman who has run a house and family has done so successfully. Many households hunch from one domestic crisis to the next, enjoying none of the benefits of efficiency, financial wizardry, management, resourcefulness and good, old fashioned common sense so prized by commercial employers.

Secondly, most women (and men) enjoy the social aspects of a job. Working from home or starting a cottage industry rarely provides enough creative stimulus to compensate for the poor rewards.

From Linda Greenbury, Mallard Place, Twickenham, Middlesex

I do not think it is at all helpful to tell home managers, many of whom already feel grossly undervalued, that "equal opp-

TALKBACK

ortunities" doesn't mean them. Anyone who can manage a family Christmas has the potential to command a sizeable military platoon, and possesses transferable job-related skills including decision-making, stress management, budgeting, resource allocation, risk-taking, persuasion, teamwork and innovation.

But before everyone rushes out to get a job immediately after the festive washing-up, they must learn to play the game in a way employers recognize. And that means switching their recognized skills to the paid work scene, and marketing themselves in "biz language".

From Mrs Adrienne Hall, Notre Dame High School, London SE1

Your contributor Peter Brown (First Person, December 16) takes the ILRA to task for "depriving Christmas of

Christ" in its recent Festival of Carols.

Unhappily, the illustrations which he has chosen to establish this point are not wholly apt. At Christmas the conscience is stirred afresh by the mystery of what God did for us in Christ. This moves us to appreciate what others, especially those we take for granted, do for us. This is the sentiment expressed in the song "Let's Invite Them All". The message of "Trafalgar Square" was missed entirely. Throughout the year there are gatherings in the square, many of which express feelings of discord and hostility; at this unique season, however, people meet to sing around the Christmas tree and "united voices greet their King".

As one of the teachers involved I can tell you contributor that the children who took part found the words of the modern songs had real relevance to their city lives and that, musically, they found them utterly enchanting — and so did I.

**Compiled by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle**

BBC1

- 7.00 The Raccoons (1.75) The Pink Panther Show.** Three cartoons (r). **7.45 Bugs Bunny (r) 8-10 A Merry Marmoset Christmas (r).** **8-10 The Flintstones (r).** **8.00 Boes Cat (r).**
- 9.25 Why Don't You..** **7 Liverpool** winners take to the dry-dry **9.50 Wilds the Wisp (r).** **9.55 Alice through the Looking Glass.** Cartoon version with the voice of **Julie Hawthorne** and **Tracey Childs (r).** **10 Birthday Gremlins** from **Simon Parkin** followed by **Play School** presented by **Sheelagh Gibley** and **Nick Mercer.**
- 10.55 Five to Eleven.** **Joanna Lumley** reads a letter written by **George Bernard Shaw** in the week before **Christmas 1893.** **11.00 Cartoon 11.05 The Little Hobo (r).** **11.30 Cartoon 11.40 Perfect Strangers.** **Bakti** looks forward to **Christmas** with the **Appleton family.** Starring **Bronson Pinchot.**
- 12.05 The Animals Holiday** Roadshow presented by **Dr Desmond Morris** and **Sarah Kennedy.**
- 12.45 Racing from Chesham.** **Julian Wilson** introduces coverage of the **Swile Comets Novices Hurdle (1.00); the Finsley Junior Hurdle (1.30); and the 2.05 (the C&W Welsh National).** The commentators are **Peter O'Sullivan** and **Richard Pitman.**
- 2.30 Film: The Man from Snowy River (1982)** starring **Kirk Douglas** and **Tom Burlinson.** An orphaned boy becomes a man working on a Australian woollyard farm. Directed by **George Miller.** (CeeFax).
- 4.00 Disney Time.** **Kenny Everett** introduces clips from **Disney** farcutes including **White and the Seven Dwarfs, Sleeping Beauty** and **Mickey's Christmas Carol.**
- 4.50 Film** are introduced by **Ralph Desler.**
- 5.05 News** with **Richard Whitmore.** Weather.
- 5.20 Film: Hooper (1978)** starring **Burt Reynolds, Sally Field** and **Brian Keith.** Comedy about a stuntman who is the top of his profession but is being challenged by an eager young man desperate to become the best. This spurs the older man into attempting the most dangerous stunt of all time. Directed by **Hai Heedham.** (CeeFax).
- 7.00 Wogan.** The first of a two-part special tribute to the golden years of radio comedy. Tonight's guests include **Kenneth Williams** and **Hugh Padgick** going **Round the Horne** and the late **Irene Handl** as **Ma Purvis** with **Pat Coombs** as her unmarriageable daughter, **Nola.**
- 7.40 The Les Dawson Show.** Comedy and music. Among the guests are **Graeme Garden** and the **Holy Pops.** (CeeFax).
- 8.30 Film: Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (1984)** starring **Christopher Lambert, Ralph Richardson** and **Ian Holm.** The legendary jungle hero whose parents, **Lord and Lady Clayton,** were shipwrecked off the African coast when his mother was pregnant, teaches him civilization for the first time when a hunting party stray into his area of the jungle. Directed by **Hugh Hudson.** (CeeFax).
- 10.40 News** and weather.
- 10.58 Match of the Day.** **Jimmy Hill** introduces highlights from two of today's **Bancary's League First Division** matches.
- 11.45 Film: Twelve Angry Men (1957, b/w)** starring **Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb** and **Ed Begley.** Classic juryroom drama in which a single juror tries to persuade his 11 fellow panelist not to be too hasty in finding a young prisoner guilty of murder. With **E.G. Marshall.** Directed by **Sidney Lumet.**
- 1.20 Weather.**

BBC2

- 9.00** Film: *Lassie and Herky's Laughing 200* (1965, b/w), **10.25** Film: *Lassie Come Home* (1943) starring Roddy McDowall, Donald Crisp and Elizabeth Taylor. After the police-stricken Carraridge family are forced to sell Lassie, the canine canine leaves her new, noble owners and treks from Scotland back to Yorkshire. Directed by Fred M. Wilcox. **11-30** *Song of Praise* (r). (Ceebeiz)
- 12.30** Film: *The Good Companions* (1936, b/w) starring Jessie Matthews and Eileen Dillwyn. J.B. Priestley's story of an ill-assorted group of people who make up a concert party. Directed by Victor Saville.
- 2.20** Film: *Belshazz in the Park*. The Bolshoi Ballet Company perform in Battersea Park (r).
- 4.35** Shownee 87. The first batch of serialists in the BBC and Radio Times Audio for Amateur Film and Video Makers.
- 5.15** 100 Great Sporting Moments. The 1975 Grand National (r).
- 5.30** Jack Hinks. The Gateway Master Bowls Tournament.
- 6.00** On the Piste (r).
- 7.00** Film: *National Velvet* (1944) starring Elizabeth Taylor. The story of a young woman who wins a hunter in a raffle and decides to turn him into a racehorse. Directed by Clarence Brown. (Ceebeiz)
- 8.00** *An Evening with Kiri Te Kanawa*. Part one of a concert from the Royal Albert Hall.
- 9.55** Flying the Flag. A new version of Jack Parham's book about flying a very small, very slow aeroplane around the south of England in the 1930s.
- 10.25** Screenplay Review.
- 10.40** Film: *Broadway Danny Rose* (1984, b/w) starring Woody Allen and Mia Farrow. Comedy about a small-time Broadway agent with an unusual collection of acts and connections with the Mafia. Directed by Woody Allen. (Ceebeiz)
- 11.00** Film: *Casablanca* (1936, b/w) starring Grant Tinker and Robert Taylor. A love story, set in Paris, about a trait beauty and a handsome young man who worships her from afar. Directed by George Cukor.
- 1.45** Weather.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV** **90** **TV** Includes an animated film, cartoon, and, at 9.22 **News** and weather.
- 9.25 Splash** with Michael Groth and Lisa Maxwell in **Walt Disney World**, Florida and **Disney's Journey to the Centre of the World**. David Bellamy talks to the centre of the world. **10.25** **Headline News** **10.30 Walt Disney Presents (?)**
- 10.45 Film:** **The Spaceman and King Arthur** (1979) starring Dennis Quaid, Tim Allen, Tim Roddy and Kenneth Moore. **Walt Disney's** tale of an astronaut and his look-alike robot who are stranded back on Earth in the 6th century. Directed by Russ Mayberry.
- 12.30 News** with John Snow.
- 12.35 Film:** **The Best of Walt Disney's True Life Adventures** (1975). A compilation of highlights from Disney's nature films, created by James Algar.
- 2.15 Film:** **Klan** (1984) starring Peter O'Toole. A made-for-television version of the Kipling classic set in 1890s India about the British Army tackling rebellious natives. Directed by John Davies.
- 4.50 News** and sports results.
- 5.05 Boccabusters** presented by Norman Cohen.
- 5.35 Film:** **The Deacon Street Door**. Inner-city children band together to rescue a young deer who has been captured by a street gang and a pair of unscrupulous carnival operators.
- 6.00 Wish You Were Here... ?** Judith Chalmers tries a glider holiday in Shropshire; John Carter on the Yugoslav island of Korčula; and Annette Kire begins a three-part report on a coach tour through the United Kingdom (Cracle).
- 7.00 The Krypton Factor**. The 1987 final. Three women and one man compete in six tests of brain and brawn. (Cracle)
- 7.30 Comedy Series:** **Mavis** is pining for her long-lost jerk; **Bet** and **Alec** are not
- communicating with each other; and **Jenny Bradley's** crush for a bit of excitement in her life puts her in people's bad books. (Cracle)
- 8.00 Film:** **No Sex Please - We're British** (1973) starring Ronnie Corbett. Beryl Reid, Arthur Lowe and Ian Ogilvy. Wrongly addressed packages and pornographic literature arrive at a bank where two of the clerks, Brian and David, have a difficult time hiding the truth from the puritanical bank manager, a bank inspector and David's new mother-in-law. Based on the long-running stage comedy by Anthony Marriott and Alistair Foot and directed by Cliff Owen.
- 8.45 News**
- 10.00 Film:** **Twilight Zone** the Movie (1983) Four stories based on the successful television series of tales of the supernatural with twists in the tail. The directors are John Landis, Steven Spielberg, Joe Dante and George Miller.
- 11.50 Comedy** Year introduced by Dickie Davies and Jim Watt. Highlights of the most talked-about bouts of the year.
- 12.50 Film:** **Stand Up Virgin Soldiers** (1979) starring Richard Gere and George Layton. Comedy about two National Servicemen in Singapore during the 1950s. Depressed with the sight of an extra six months in the Army, the two privates find solace in the local whore-house and in the arms of two nurses. Directed by Norman Cohen.
- 2.30 News** headlines followed by **Tad**, American comedy series.
- 3.00 Film:** **The Kid From Brooklyn** (1946) starring Danny Kaye and Virginia Mayo. A Jewish mid-mannered milkman who discovers that he can box. Directed by Norman Z. McLeod.
- 5.05 The** **British** **Hollywood**. **Betty Grable**.
- 5.30 CNN Headline News**. Ends at 6.00.

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 After Dark: Klaus Barbie - Can We Forgive, Dear We Forget?** A repeat of the discussion programme shown in July immediately after the conclusion of the trial in Lyon of the Nazi war criminal. Among those taking part are Maître Jacques Vergès, Barbie's defence lawyer, Lyon Resistance fighter Philippe Borgeaud, Kurt Turgel, an Auschwitz survivor, Canon Paul Oestreicher, Neal Ascherson and Eli Rosenbaum, lately general counsel of the World Jewish Council. Ian Kennedy is in the chair.
- 12.00 Street Hockey.** The first of a new series of four daily programmes covering the Tannenberg Super National Street Hockey Championship held in Leicester.
- 12.30 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park.** Rough Scott introduces coverage of the Hammersmith Odeon Novices' Hurdle (12.45), the Snow White Novices' Chase (1.15), the 'Shirley's' Hurdle and Chase (1.45), and the Top Rank Christmas Hurdle (2.20).
- 2.45 Film: Start (1968)** starring Julie Andrews. Musical biography of Gertrude Lawrence. Directed by Robert Wise.
- 5.55 Fables Tale Theatre: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.** Elizabeth McGovern, Vanessa Redgrave, Rex Smith and Vincent Price star in this dramatization of the fairy tale in which the evil queen and her wicked huntsmen to track down and kill her fair stepdaughter. Snow White, directed by Peter Medak.
- 6.50 News summary and weather** followed by Cliff from the Hip. Cliff Richard in concert supported by Elton John, Billy Ocean, Five Star, the Shadows and Marti Webb (rt).
- 8.00 Brookside, (Oracle)**
- 8.30 Charles Rennie Mackintosh - Dreams and Recollections.** (see Choice)
- 10.00 Thomas 'Fats' Waller - This Joint Is Jumpin'.** (see Choice)
- 11.00 Comedienne.** A documentary from the United States tracing the ups and downs of two New York comedienne, Helen Klein and Zora Rasmussen. Ends at 12.35.

Mackintosh's quality

TELEVISION CHOICE

● With a soundtrack of tinkling piano music, specially composed by Rick Wakeman, Charles Renzie Mackintosh: Dreams and Recollections (Channel 4, 8.30pm) is an evocative portrait of the architect whose work dazzled the late Victorian world but who died unsung and largely forgotten. The enigma intrigued an admirer of Mackintosh, the actress Kara Wilson, who, with her husband, Tom Conti, presents the programme, a lyrical impressionist journey, part documentary, part drama, in which the Contis appear both as themselves and as the Mackintoshes. Along the way they wander through Mackintosh's buildings, starting with the celebrated, far-fetched Glasgow School of Art, and that to people who remember the architect during his various sojourns in Scotland, East Anglia, Chelsea and the south of France. The film may infuriate those who like an ordered arrangement of facts and dates, and Mackintosh's life up to the opening of the Glasgow School of Art (in 1899, when he was 30) goes by almost entirely unmentioned. Nor do the Contis really answer the question they pose at the beginning, why a giant of modern architecture should have felt obliged to turn his back on that profession and be forced to spend his last years barely able to scratch a living. What the programme does convey, beyond the minutiae of the life of Mackintosh, is the force of Mackintosh's rebellion against the heavy design of the Victorians and his successful advocacy of a cleaner, and, as he saw it, more useful style. One of the interviewees recalls a little girl's pleasure at a "lovely feeling of space and light" in



Kara Wilson and Tom Conti, in Scottish TV's production of Dreams and Recollections, Channel Four, 8.30pm

the house designed by Mackintosh for her father and his buildings still look astonishingly bold and modern. He may have died a wasted genius but posterity is fast catching up with his achievement.

● **Thomas "Fats" Waller:** This Jewish "tramp" (Waller was born in 1906, died in 1943) is not very strong on dates, either, but it has the enormous advantage over the Contis' programme in that its subject can be conjured up on film. Waller seems notably well documented, not only in cinema films but in early versions of what is now known as the pop promo. We know his voice from records and when he was seen copying the rakish hat and twinkling fingers of this ebullient, roly-poly figure, there is not a lot more to add, though the producer/director Howard Johnson has done the rounds of family and colleagues. As well as exploring Waller's stride piano technique, the programme usefully places

The pet hate of Alan Towe

RADIO CHOICE

● You won't find even a hint of that original Napoleonic scorn in John Wake's new series *Nation of Shopkeepers* (Radio 4, 12.00pm). Instead, it's hats off to the Little Man (and Woman) who keeps the corner shop on, or off, the High Street; and manages to keep going despite the crushing opposition of the giant – the supermarket – that plays Goliath to his David. The series kicks off with the Towses, husband and wife, who run a pet shop in Stockport. Alan Towe has no cause – yet – to complain that the Big Guns of the retail trade are cutting the ground from under his feet by selling strictly non-packaged lines like monkeys and goldfish. But the supermarket food must be cheaper than he does, and with devastating logic, he argues that they ought to keep out of his specialist field: "A supermarket assistant wouldn't know where to start if you asked him what the basic diet



Peter Skellern: new comedy series, R4, 10.30am

of a capuchin monkey is — or what's the gestation period of a marmoset".

● Having, presumably, exhausted his huge stocks of televisual misanthropy, that Northern soul lemon Mort is now ready to dispense a fresh supply of acid through the medium of our radio sets. And Uncle Mort's North Country (Radio 4, 10.30am) finds Peter Tinniswood's unlovable creation (impersonated now by Stephen

● Best of the rest on radio today: there's a repeat of Chris Emmett's traditional Christmas panto *Puss-in-Boots* (Radio 2, 7.00pm) with Arthur Askey — much missed, especially at this time of the year — as the Dame. And there is a truly democratic and festive edition of *Kaleidoscope* anagrammatically called *A Coiled Spoke* (Radio 4, 4.30pm) which not only gives listeners a chance to have their say for once, but offers a quiz for good measure.

Peter Davalle



Kiri Te Kanawa at the Royal Albert Hall: the gala concert is on BBC2, 9.00pm.

VARIATIONS

[illegible]

BBC1 WALES 1.20-1.25pm
News of Wales **SCOTLAND**
10.55-11.55am **FIMED** (circuit)

ANGELA As London
news, 12.30pm
Christie's Murder With Mirrors 5.30pm
The Maitland's 5.45pm
The 100th Anniversary of the First World War 6.30pm
BORDER As London
news, 12.30pm
Weather follow-up, 12.45pm
CENTRAL As London
news, 12.30pm
The Prisoner 1.30pm
The Prisoner: The Making of a Legend 1.45pm
Stars of Wrestling from the United States 2.15pm
The Prisoner: The Making of a Legend 2.30pm
The Prisoner: The Making of a Legend 2.45pm
CHANNEL 4 As London
news, 12.30pm
Weather Outlook, 12.45pm
GRAMPIAN As London
news, 12.30pm
North Highlands 12.45pm
GRANADA As London
news, 12.30pm
Close-up, 12.45pm
HTV WEST As London
news, 12.30pm
Weather and Close-up, 12.45pm
HTV WALES As HTV West
news, 12.30pm
Weather and Close-up, 12.45pm

Page 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below)
5.30am Adrian John **7.00** Nicky Campbell with the Breakfast Show **9.30** Johnnie Walker
11.30 Gary Davies incl **12.30** Newsbeat **2.00pm** The Rise and Rise of **2.40** The Top CDs of 87 incl **5.30** Newsbeat **6.00** Rock Brain of the Universe **7.00** Jenice Long **8.00** Rock in Russia **10.50-12.10** John Peel's Festival 50 (Nov 30-21) VHF
 Stereo Radios 1 and 2: **4.00am** As Radio 2 **2.00pm** As Radio 1
6.00 As Radio 2 **10.00** As Radio 1
12.00-4.00am As Radio 2

Page 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
4.00am Colin Barry **5.00**
5.00am Madden **5.05** Ray Moore
10.00 John Dunn **11.00**
11.00 Young David Under
1.00pm David Jacobs **2.00**
Holiday Sport on 2, including races from Chepstow, also a sports news report
5.30 The Christmas Huddines
6.00 Sing Something Sinistra **7.00**
Puss-in-Boots. A traditional pantomime **8.00** Round the Home **8.30** Michael Feinstein in cabaret **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton on piano **9.30** Sports report **9.30** The Christmas Huddines
11.00 Brian Matthews **1.00am** Patrick Lum **2.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

[illegible]

Radio 3

3.10 Maurice Ravel: Montreal SO under Charles Dutoit, with Stoodham Ensemble Chorus and Kyung Wha Chung (violin). Façades, from L'Éventail de Jeanne; Tzigane, La valse des Treize chansons; and Bolero
4.00 Segovia: the guitarist in recordings of Tompou's suite composed by Andrés Baccalini, Op 143; and Quintet, The Capatina
5.00 World Service
5.10 A Very Great Man indeed: comedy by Henry Reed (the 1961 production). With Hugh Gordon as schoolmaster Herbert Ransome, cast also includes Carleton Hobbs, Gwen Cherrell, Norman Shelley, Michael Farrell (The Daily Tablet), and Betty Hardy. Music by (and played by) Donald Swann
6.35 Richard Wagner: Strauss: Boston Symphony Chamber Players perform Strauss waltzes arranged by Schoenberg (Recordings from the South) and Rebecca (The Gypsy Baron)
6.55 News bulletin
7.00 Peter Katin plays Wats, at the Westminster Cathedral, plays works including Prelude and Fugue in B, Op 7 No 1, and Variations sur un Noël, Op 20
7.30 Kurtwiegler and the Vienna Philharmonic: Franck's Symphony in D minor; and Brahms's Symphony No 2
8.55 Paddy Breathnach: Irish traditional music reads The Rich Exemined (Truman capote)
9.00 The Jong Van Nijik (mazurka), Ruud van der Meer (baritone), Rudolf Janßen (piano) perform Cinq nouvelles populaires gracieuses; Historiae naturales; Vocalise-étude en forme d'habsere
9.30 Overlook over Bethlehem: Margaret Horsfield asks whether the Bethlehem was ever populated
10.00 Peter Katin plays Chopin Nocturnes: Op postic; in C minor; in C sharp minor Op 9 No 1 in B flat major; Op 2 in E flat; No 3 in B
10.30 Bouremouth-Sinfonietta, under Roger Norrington, with Raphael Wallfisch (cello); Correll (Chorale Grosso) in B flat, Op 5 No 11; Haydn (Cello Concerto in D, H Vito No 2); J.C. Bach (Symphony) in G minor, Op 5 No 6
11.20 Dvorak: Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Alexander Schneider play the Serenade in E flat strings
11.57 News 12.00 Close-down

Radio 4

LW (long wave), (s) Stereo on VHF	1.40
5.53 Shipping Forecast 6.00	2.00
News Briefing; Weather	3.00
6 Morning Today 6.35	
Prayer (s)	
6.39 Praiser; Seasonal music (s)	
6.35 Weather	
7.00 News Today's Papers	
7.15 Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow: The Today team recall events of the past year and look forward to 1988, Incl 7.55 Weather	4.00
8.00 News 8.10 Today's Papers	4.30
8.35 The Week on 4: programme trailers	
8.42 Life's Rich Pagaent: Written and read by Arthur Marshall (the Testament) 8.57	5.00
Weather; Travel	5.30
9.00 News Bulletin	6.00
9.05 After Henry: Wedding Bells. Britten comedy series about three generations of women in one family, with Lesley	6.15
9.35 Andrew Welcome's First Birthday: a fourteen-year-old boy celebrates the first birthday of his adoption by the Welcomes. Jenny Curtil tells the story of how he was first abandoned, then raised in foster care and was finally advertised for adoption (t)	6.30
10.00 News; A Tradition of Sympathy: Five programmes sewedropping on the wards, clinics and corridors of London's Midweek Hospital (t)	7.00
A Family Affair (t)	7.20
10.30 Alice Mort's North Country: (new series) by Peter Unwinwood, with Stephen Thorne and Peter Skelton (see Choice)	7.45
10.45 Radio Services: from the City Hydio Hotel, Perthshire	
11.00 News; Travel; Viva Verdi! (new series): The comic life of Giuseppe Verdi in 3 acts (t) The Life of a Galaxy Series with Daniel Messey as Verdi (t)	9.15
11.20 News: Nation of Shopkeepers (new series): Three stories this week. John Wall meets the owners of five small businesses which are thriving despite the competition of chain stores in the high street, (t) A Pet Shop in Stockport (see Choice)	9.45
11.25 Hancock's Half Hour: Tony Hancock with the gang in The Threatening Letters (t) 12.55 Weather	10.15
1.00 The World at One	10.30
FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/225m; Radio 2:1053kHz/225m; Radio 3:1215kHz/225m; Radio 4:200kHz/VHF 97-99; LBC:1153kHz/549kHz/194m; VHF550:549kHz/194m; London Local:1053kHz/225m; Radio 400kHz/433m.	11.45
	12.00
	VHF
	2.00p
	Hannal
	Program

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Men who moved the markets

Graham Searjeant hands out the bouquets and brickbats in a year dominated, in the end, by one day: Black Monday

The New Year's honours list will give a monochrome snapshot of business life. To add colour, *The Times* again offers its own supplementary awards for Business and the Related Arts...

Businessmen have first call on these prizes. But this year's outstanding candidates for the top award, that for Supreme Achievement, come from the public sector.

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, showed a mind deeply influenced in early life by Kipling's *Ji*. On Black Monday, lesser mortals might have expected the head of the City to abort his 10-day official visit to Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

But the Governor sensed it was more important to keep his head while all around him were losing theirs (as well as their shirts). And so the myth of Nero playing the violin was eclipsed by the image of the Governor hunting for the Balkans, as the City crashed.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton's vignette cannot, however, compare with the bold canvas filled by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nigel Lawson, outdid the most astute businessman by making a £1.1 billion paper profit out of the crash.

The Chancellor was the first world leader to take action to counter the crash. To go ahead with the sale of BP shares, to the enormous cost of most big names in the City, might seem a contradiction.

Instead, his determination earned him plaudits in Parliament for punishing whingeing New York underwriters and putting the taxpayer before the City. Big investors, converted from sybarites to masochists, said the pain was good for them. The Chancellor was hailed as future prime minister.

Thanks to the Kuwaitis, he will have to buy back, at 70p, only about half the shares sold for an initial 120p, ending up with 18 per cent of BP and a £550 million profit from selling those very shares.

But there is more. As self-appointed ringmaster of international co-operation, the Chancellor has led pressure on the United States, Germany and Japan to make radical policy changes. Yet he has brilliantly avoided any calls for Britain to do anything. Mr Lawson is the man of the crash: an easy and worthy winner.

As for the Governor, only Mrs Thatcher can decide whether he will keep his head in 1988. Meanwhile, he earns the consolation prize of this year's Nelson Patch.

Competition for the second major award, that of Capitalist of the Year, was a tougher two-horse race. Antony Pilkington, fifth generation to head the paternalistic glass multinational, took an early lead by thrashing a takeover bid from feared predator Sir Owen Green. "Mighty Ant" as he has been dubbed, had wisely left to others any appeal to social conscience, the national interest or the long-term view — all hopelessly damned as wet.

He relied on years of hard work transforming the pride of St Helens through the slump, forecast a rise in profit from £123 million to £250 million, then beat his forecast. Pilkington then took another leap, paying £360 million to

build a 15 per cent stake in the world opthalmic market.

The self-made Lord King is as liable to be under-estimated as the fifth Mr Pilkington. British Airways' spectacular take-off in February (likewise capped six years' hard work for the BA chairman and his lieutenant, Sir Colin Marshall).

Remaking the one-time heavy loss-maker was only half of it. BA faced constant legal and political battles, over Laker Airways or the distribution of routes with rival British Caledonian.

"I can't quite take it in, what we have done or how we have done it," Lord King confessed after more than a million applied for shares. Yet, by the summer, he was starting to realize the even more impossible dream of buying out B-Cal — and facing his biggest political battle of all. He won. And if the final price seemed high, a monopoly of the flag was priceless.

To avoid an impossible choice, an equal prize of Industrialist of the Year has been specially created. In some countries, the two would be synonymous. In Britain, a capitalist is a businessman favourably viewed in government circles as "one of us". An industrialist is not. Thus Lord King is the Capitalist and Antony Pilkington the Industrialist of the Year.

Richard Branson avoided a knighthood and continued to prosper after his special Rising Capitalist award last year. So it is worth taking the risk again. Martin Sorrell wins.

In two years, Mr Sorrell parlayed a £1 million manufacturer of supermarket trolleys, renamed WPP, into a £135 million media services company. Then the unknown Briton bid £350 million for J Walter Thompson, the American advertising agency. To more wonder, he succeeded.

To take on a challenge which your predecessors have given up as impossible qualifies you for our other major award, The Poisoned Chalice, won this year by Eurotunnel chairman Alastair Morton.

Mr Morton had already answered a call from the Bank of England to help Guinness Peat, knowing he could never satisfy the group's patriarch, Lord Kinnaird. He did not even try, but did the job well enough to receive another call from a worried Old Lady.

His rival struck on October 28, a day chosen by world central bankers to mount a massive effort to defend the dollar. Germany's Bundesbank alone spent \$1 billion (£549 million) pegging it above DM1.75 until the intervention of M Jacques Delors, the President of the European Commission.

Mr Morton acted fast to restore credibility, scarcely pausing to defend his back as he was, predictably, ousted from Guinness Peat. By the autumn, success seemed to have been wrested from disaster. Then came the crash. More than 100,000 investors applied for shares — but not enough. They are losing a quarter of their money.

Eurotunnel investors have a good collective claim to a new award, Sid's Cloth Cap. A specially enlarged version would fit Robert Maxwell, who volunteered as Eurotunnel's biggest underwriter. But even he was heavily outbid by the select winning group, which allegedly managed a unique combination of stupidity and dishonesty by making multiple applications for BP shares — an offence carrying its own inbuilt plea of diminished responsibility.

Mr Delors still felt, in some strange way, that nobody had noticed. So he tried to expunge his remarks from the official parliamentary minutes. This added touch clinched the Foot in Mouth Statuette for M Delors.



Award-winners: (from left) adman Martin Sorrell; Antony Pilkington, man with a heart of glass; BA's high-flying Lord King; super-salesman Nigel Lawson, and Eurotunnel's Alastair Morton

Lack of tact rather than credibility is the test for the Foot in Mouth Statuette. There were two outstanding nominations. Barclay's Sir Martin Jacob, a founding father of the new City regulatory system, probably thought he was saying no more than the truth when he publicly opined that insider trading was "a victimless crime". He was taken to mean that the City did not care, and was lambasted on all sides.

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The related Ballet in Foot Plaster Cast goes to Mr Cecil Parkinson. In November, the man who wants to make electricity privatization popular announced a formula to raise prices by nearly 15 per cent. It was instantly hailed as the cost of privatization. At the same time, Mr Parkinson averred that British electricity would still be the cheapest in Europe, thus brilliantly undermining his own claim that the industry was in desperate need of more competition.

The Rubber Duck award for flexibility is won by the CBI's double-act, president Sir David Nickson and director general Mr John Bannister. Sir David's star-studded City/industry task force reported unanimously five days before the crash that much-reviled City "short-termism" did not exist.

The idea was a "pervasive mythology" that needed debunking. One long week later, Mr Bannister reported an equally unanimous resolution of the CBI council condemning the "short-term gyrations" in the stock market.

The crash settled many City awards late in the year. The Amir of Kuwait wins the White Knight Shield for helping out his old chum Nigel Lawson over BP. Robin Leigh-Pemberton was runner up for protecting Britain's banks from almost anyone.

Renowned escapologist Mr Epirum Margulies established an early claim on the Colditz Wooden Horse by keeping S&W Berisford from the clutches of Hillsdown

Holdings, Italy's Ferruzzi and Tate & Lyle, all in short order — albeit with the help of the Monopolies Commission. The game looked up when Gary Weston's Associated British Foods laid siege. But the crash came just in time. Mr Weston withdrew. Marg lives to fight another day.

Storehouse's Sir Terence Conran might have fancied the simple design of the Wooden Horse, for seeing off both Mountleigh and Benlox. But he was discredited because his own misunderstood remarks opened the bidding.

Mountleigh's Tony Clegg, who had a 445p per share offer turned down by Sir Terence, had a better claim. With Storehouse shares now fetching just 252p, Sir Terence receives instead the Pyrrhus Victory Shield.

Mr Peter Earl, who devised the hopelessly hopeful Benlox offer, is awarded the Icarus Waxwing for alone believing it would fly.

Self-regard is vital for aspirants to the Golden Narcissus. A huge salary is, however, no longer enough, since low-profile Far East securities man Christopher Heath walked the pay race with £2.5 million.

So this year's flower goes to the Saatchi brothers. Having decided to expand into trendy financial services, the brothers aimed high — at the less-trendy Midland Bank. But they soon learnt that, while a cat may look at a king, ad-men cannot look at a bank. When

the Saatchi share price plummeted, the brothers took it as a personal insult, launching an advertising campaign to remind everyone how successful they are — as if we doubted it.

Last year's winner of the Narcissus, Burton's Sir Ralph Halpern, faced a storm from investors over his exaggerated share options, had his more embarrassing private moments highlighted in the popular Press, and still triumphed at a meeting where one shareholder hailed him as the greatest Englishman since Winston Churchill. Following this citation, Sir Ralph is awarded the Victory V-Sign.

A copy of the Guinness Book of Criminal Records (unconnected to Norris McWhirter's more popular tome) goes to Ivan Boesky, whose arias turned insider trading into a top-rating soap opera. Good will, and lawyers, counsel against further gifts.

The Guinness affair itself, still rumbling like a Christmas lunch, claimed its own share of prizes. Former chairman Mr Ernest Saunders, given an interim reward last year, now receives the newly sculpted Fallen Angel, transparent in 100 per cent lead crystal.

Circumstance, rather than absolute size, is also the vital factor in the Golden Boot award. It therefore goes to Christopher Reeves and Graham Walsh, who shared a reported £562,000 from grateful Morgan Grenfell shareholders after resigning in January from their respective

posts of chief executive and head of corporate finance. Sir Norman Macfarlane, the new chairman of Guinness, received several well-constructed letters (as well as cheques) in response to queries over payments made under the former regime.

The Silken Word-Processor goes to Gerald Ronson, belletrist of the year.

But enough of Guinness, and back to business. Sir Eric Sharp is a worthy successor to Sir John Cuckney in the title Politician of the Year.

In his efforts to secure an international telephone licence in Japan, Sir Eric enlisted Mrs Thatcher as Summit negotiator and inspired trade minister Alan Clark to declare a short-lived trade war on Japan in the course of Commons questions.

Sir John Read of the TSB takes home this year's Lady Bountiful Plate. With so much cash from shareholders, Sir John took the motto: if you've got it, flaunt it. In July, TSB paid £220 million for Target's £1 billion of managed funds.

Three months later, the Royal insurance group drew in almost a quarter as much, with a £6 million advertising campaign — though Royal's skill in making sure the money was invested just before the crash earns it the Wooden Eggstern.

Sir John's greatest coup, however, was to bid £777 million for Hill Samuel on October 2. A month later, after the crash, he persuaded shareholders to go ahead with the offer.

Which brings us to the final prize, the Niccolò Machiavelli Adviser of the Year award. This was almost stolen at the finishing post by John Thornton of Goldman Sachs, who outpaced Lord King to more than double the price of his client British Caledonian.

But the winner is last year's runner-up, Hill Samuel — for dealing with its own affairs. Since the days of Lord Keith, Hill Samuel has been afflicted by an urge to submerge itself in a larger group.

Yet, City doyen Sir Robert Clark and his board did not like being put into play by a changing cast of predatory antipodean marsupials. They finally decided in July to seek protection from the Union Bank of Switzerland.

There were two hitches. Christopher Castleman, the chief executive, still craved independence, and resigned. Then the Swiss pulled out a month later. In the ensuing confusion, new chief executive David Davies said the group needed "pulling together and stabilizing", as executive teams went off to sell themselves. What would a financial adviser have said? Yet, in the end, it all worked out well for employees and Hill Samuel shareholders.

That is surely a message of hope for all those who face new challenges in 1988.

How Black Monday took the gloss from the glittering prizes

Over the next two years, I wouldn't be surprised to see up to 50,000 jobs go in the City," says Mr Stephen Lewis, with that blend of cool arithmetic and brazen guesswork that characterizes the City's more respected economists.

Mr Lewis, who works for Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, includes in his sums those who might be nudged out of jobs as the ripples from flapping City broking firms wash over the accountants, lawyers and PR executives who serve them.

His numbers are generally larger than those suggested by others, but the message is everywhere: the same more job cuts are on the way and anyone who thinks the worst is over probably also believes in the tooth fairy. So how long will the dyke hold?

"Nobody has made any money, unless they have been extraordinarily lucky, over the past three months," says Mr Terry Smith, a banking analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the stockbroking firm.

"Firms will accept bad figures for December: it is always a funny month," he says. "They might even forgive a poor January and February,

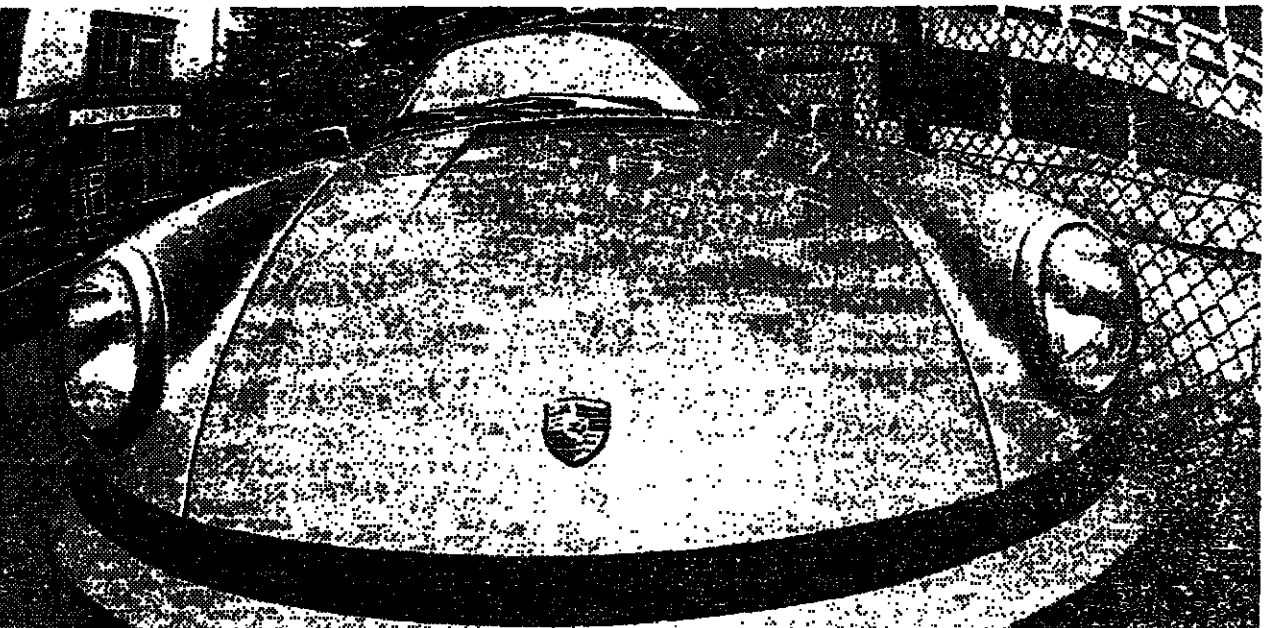
trying not to be too hasty to reach conclusions. Round about the end of the first quarter of 1988 might be an interesting time. If firms still aren't making money then, there could be a lot of panic."

Mr Brian Nicholson, the managing director of headhunter Marlar International, says: "Many of the sophisticated companies in the City are making a very detailed examination of where they can cut costs, while retaining market share. Many people lower down the line may find that the glittering future they saw for themselves might no longer be there."

The mood shows how decisively City life has changed since October 19. The market crash fractured confidence and brought into focus many of the problems that could be ignored in balmy days.

For a long time, according to Mr Peter Wilmot-Sitwell, the joint chairman of Warburg Securities, there have been too many people employed in the securities business, and too many of them were being bailed out by the bull market.

But as share trading volume shrunk after the October crash, the fancy offices and the fancier salaries have become



Porsche in a storm: the yuppie symbol of success may be an endangered species, as City job security goes out of the window

less easy to justify. And as austerity bites, yuppies have become about as fashionable as tweed suits in Cairo.

"October 19 wasn't the fundamental cause, just the catalyst," says RZW's Terry Smith. "There is basically

over-capacity in the securities industry and, like in any other industry, when things get tighter, jobs go."

A large firm like RZW, which lost about £60 million in the crash, needs to make close to £750,000 a day just to

cover its overheads. If stock market activity remains as slack as it has been in recent weeks, there will simply not be enough business.

But the passing of the champagne days is not being mourned by everyone. Out-

siders who watched, disbelieving, as City salaries climbed, now sit back happily to watch the young, double-breasted rich get their comeuppance.

In New York, where sharp advertising executives are usually among the first to

smell change in the air, Madison Avenue no longer trumpets the virtues of conspicuous consumption. Yuppies are an embarrassment. Their prominence is likely to wane further in London, too, as the blood-letting continues on both sides of the Atlantic.

So far, the big American houses — like Salomon Brothers, which has cut 800 off its payroll worldwide, and Merrill Lynch, which plans to save \$200 million (£110 million) through salary cuts and layoffs — have been setting the pace.

EF Hutton, the US investment house, is axing a third of its 18,000 staff around the world following its merger with Shearson Lehman Brothers. Manufacturers Hanover is putting some 2,500 staff out to grass.

University graduates looking for their first job are no longer queuing up outside the offices of the City's bigger firms. Nor are those City firms looking to hire them.

Mr Peter Happe, a director of the executive search arm of Arthur Young, the accountant, says the impact on the job market is already being felt. "Some of the backwash of the redundancies has been a

rush of c.v.s coming across our desk," he says. "There is no doubt that some of the steam has gone out of demand. Employers are taking a deep breath when looking at their 1988 budget."

While many City pay-cheques will be slimmer in 1988, those people with special skills will still command a premium. It is the unexceptional who will suffer.

Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew reckons a typical salesman in a stockbroking firm, with two years' experience, say 23 years old, might now be making £30,000, including bonuses. This could fall to £25,000 in 1988. An analyst in his late 20s, with a good following in the City, could see his current package of about £50,000 a year shrink by up to 20 per cent. Equally, they could both lose their jobs.

"The job reviews that have taken place so far have generally been weeding out people who haven't made the grade," he says. "There will now be a secondary pruning as a result of closer job evaluation. These will not be trickles. There will be large cuts of 1,000 jobs here, another 2,000 there."

Joe Joseph

RACING: PETER EASTERBY'S TALENTED SIX-YEAR-OLD CAN CAPTURE BIG KEMPTON HURDLE FOR THE SECOND YEAR RUNNING

Nohalmudum to take honours again

By Mandarin

Nohalmudum is taken to win the Top Rank Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park this afternoon for the second year in succession.

Last year he came home 12 lengths clear of Mrs Muck but the talking point of the race was the last-flight fall of Floyd, who was disputing the lead at the time.

Opinion was divided as to whether Floyd would have won had he stood up, but I feel that Nohalmudum had the edge anyway. He can confirm that view by once again defeating Floyd, who heads the opposition today.

Nohalmudum is on the verge of top-class at his best, as he showed when finishing an 8½-length third to See You Then in the 1986 Champion Hurdle.

Although relatively lightly raced since then, he has continued to demonstrate an enviable ability to quicken in the closing stages - he is ideally suited by waiting tactics - notably last season when, in addition to winning here, he comfortably beat Barnbrook Again at Ascot.

Despite this being his seasonal debut he has won first time out in each of his three previous seasons and the lack of a previous outing is unlikely to be any obstacle to his chances.

Floyd has had a run, when winning the Fighting Fifth Hurdle at Newcastle last month by eight lengths from Ballydunrow, and he too, lightly raced in recent seasons like Nohalmudum, is a lively Champion Hurdle prospect.

His best effort last season was an emphatic seven-length defeat of Prince Day in the Bula Hurdle at Cheltenham, and indeed his only reverse in three outings was his fall here.

However, perhaps an echo of Desert Orchids' defeat here on Boxing Day, he faces another bad front runner in the improved Juven Light, successful under top weight in a Lingfield handicap last time.

The possibility of them going too fast for their own good, and leaving Loran when, in addition to winning here, he comfortably beat Barnbrook Again at Ascot.



Loran Wye: teams up with Nohalmudum at Kempton

Convinced will have to improve his hurdling to win this and more appeal is made by last season's Liverpool winner Aldino.

Manjania, a winner on the Flat last season, can fulfil the promise of his Lingfield seventh to South Parade, his hurdling debut by winning the Novices' Hurdle.

Pridden Boy can hardly be opposed in the Snow White

Novices' Chase but I take more of a chance with Welsh Oak, the Spacelash Handicap Chase.

The highlight of Chepstow's programme is the Coral Welsh National, in which Playschool and Kildimo renew Hennessy Gold Cup rivalry.

Playschool came out the better on that occasion, beating Contradict by five lengths with Kildimo beaten a total of 10½ lengths in fourth.

As they meet here on the same terms Playschool is taken to confirm the form, and also exact revenge on "N" Reason, a Lingfield defeat earlier this month.

Playschool meets Rhyne "N" Reason on his 9th birthday for a 17-length better, but David Barons' charge will be suited by this longer trip, particularly on a course which has brought out the best in him in the past.

Little Polver, the winner of last season's Scottish Grand National, is a thorough stayer but he is best suited by very soft ground, and a greater

danger may be Torside from the Martin Pipe stable.

Whatever the fate of Torside, Pipe may be on the mark with Sea Island, the winner of four of her five starts this term, in the Final Junior Hurdle.

Sea Island scored at Newton Abbot on Boxing Day and looks set for another victory. Previously, she made all to beat Touch Of Speed in a good-class event at Worcester after suffering her only setback at the hands of the unbeaten Calapez at Ascot.

I stay at Chepstow for the next, that after his disappointing Novices' Chase, the four-year-old had beaten Quickstep at Plumpton earlier this month in trainer David Murray Smith nominated this race as the next objective. Dark Heritage can bring the plan to successful fruition.

The champion two-mile chaser Pearlyman runs in the Westford Handicap Chase at Worcester, but after his disappointing effort at Ascot last time I prefer Amber Rambler in receipt of two stone.

Henderson Abbey Glen gives back in business majestic display

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Nicky Henderson could not have had a better Christmas present when Liamon put in a gutsy effort to land the Netherton Four-Year-Old Handicap Hurdle at Wolverhampton on Boxing Day.

The Lambourn trainer's horses have been suffering from a virus and this was his first winner since Take No Trash since the Irish St Leger, now looks the last best bet for over a fortnight.

"They started cantering this week and do seem a lot better. I'll just have to be patient," said Henderson, who added: "I've got a lot of catching up to do so I hope there is no freeze-up in January."

His triple champion hurdler Scotty then has not been affected by the virus but has not done any serious work up to now. "He's a fortnight away from starting his work and I don't know where he'll run yet. I've left my options open," Henderson reported.

Brandon Powell, originally booked to ride Rhyne "N" Reason in today's Coral Welsh National at Chepstow, broke his left collar-bone and injured his right hand when Air Flight fell at the start of the race. Henderson's horse was ridden by Reg Hollinshead.

Peter Dever, who broke an arm and a leg at Newbury on November 4, returns to action at Chepstow today when he partners Charlie Dickins in the valuable Final Junior Hurdle for Reg Hollinshead.

Thieves broke into Monica Dickinson's Harwood stable on Christmas Eve and stole riding boots worth an estimated £5,000. Mrs Dickinson said: "Every single piece of my horse's equipment was stolen. We were left with no equipment at all."

Chris Fairhead has decided to give up riding and concentrate on his job as assistant to his father Tommy at Middleham.

Abbey Glen, trained by Pat Hughes, put up another outstanding performance when he won the £12,000 Denny's Gold Medal Novices' Chase over two miles at Leopardstown on Boxing Day.

Only three of the six runners completed the course but the casualties made no difference to the outcome as the contest had developed into a match between Abbey Glen, the 9-10 favourite, and the well-backed Wolf Of Badenoch.

Turning into the straight Wolf Of Badenoch attempted to get on terms but Abbey Glen proved too strong, giving him 5½ and a 2½-length beating.

"We will now go for the big Article double at Leopardstown and Cheltenham," Hughes said. "The timing is just right and any horse can have a short break and go to Cheltenham fresh."

Thanks to Abbey Glen and an

earlier win on the Kevin Connolly-trained Old Dundalk, Berry retained a two-winner lead over Brendan Sheridan in the keenly contested battle for the jump jockeys' championship.

Old Dundalk had the Duffy Meats Juvenile Hurdle at his mercy once Berry elected to kick him on after the second last flight and despite a mistake at the last best Dos Advenia by four lengths.

Old Dundalk, a useful winner on the Flat as well as finishing third in the Queen's Vase at Royal Ascot and fifth in the Irish St Leger, now looks the best juvenile hurdler in Ireland.

"He will now go for the Wessex Irish Champion Hurdle while I intend to enter him in the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham as well as the Triumph Hurdle," Old Dundalk's owner, judge Frank Roe, said.

Brittany Boy to press Cheltenham claims

Four of the first six in this year's Jameson Irish Grand National, including the pair who fought out the finish, Brittany Boy and Bankers Benefit, meet again in the £30,000 Findus Handicap Chase at Leopardstown this afternoon (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

On paper, Bankers Benefit should win as he enjoys an 8½ lb pull with Brittany Boy, a four-length Fairbury win. However, Bankers Benefit has done nothing this winter to suggest that he is yet back to his best, while Brittany Boy, despite being short of peak fitness, was best to beat Barrow Lane at Fairbury earlier this month.

Excursion returned to winning ways to beat Bobolink and Royal Bond at Puncostown recently. Royal Bond, third to

Excursion there, enjoys a handsome 10 lb pull but the extra half mile will be against the 14-year-old top weight.

Randos, a 20-1 winner last year, again takes his chance and may be the best of the outsiders, but Brittany Boy could well take another step on the road to participation in this season's Cheltenham Gold Cup.

John Mulhern will be wearing two hats today, firstly as managing director of Findus Frozen Foods, the major sponsor, and then as the trainer of Galmoy, who can concede weight to his best, while the Findus Anniversary Hurdle.

There will be a 7 am inspection to determine whether today's meeting at Limerick can go ahead following heavy overnight rain on Saturday.

KEMPTON PARK

Selections

12.45 Manjania, 2.15 Nohalmudum, 1.15 Pridden Boy, 2.45 Sun Rising, 1.45 Welsh Oak, 3.15 Admirals AIL

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.15 PRIDEN BOY.

Going: good

12.45 HAMMERSMITH NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O: 2m 4f) (21 runners)

101	OFF FORTUNE'S POLLY 20 (5) (Form) Laid D Hanley 11-0	C Brown	75
104	01 BALMICH EXPRESS 74 (4) (Adm) R Curtis 10-0	R Goldstein	81
105	02 DON KENNEDY 84 (4) (Gym) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
107	03 DUBOIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
108	04 LALWORTH (W) Walford 10-0	K Mooney	90
109	05 GILT BRONZE 24 (4) (Adm) M Banks 10-0	R Damsay	82
110	06 BURNER 15 (4) (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
111	07 MANJANIA 15 (4) (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
112	08 MARLEY MURPHY 20 (4) (Adm) R Curtis 10-0	R Damsay	82
113	09 BIKES BOYS (M) Murphy 10-0	R Damsay	82
114	10 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
115	11 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
116	12 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
117	13 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
118	14 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
119	15 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
120	16 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
121	17 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
122	18 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
123	19 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
124	20 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
125	21 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
126	22 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82
127	23 TALLIS (Adm) S Woodman 10-0	R Damsay	82

BETTING: 7-2 FORTUNE'S POLLY, 5-1 TALLIS, 5-1 Gilt Bronze, 7-1 Nohalmudum, 10-1 Touch Of Speed, 12-1 Gilt Bronze, 10-1 Manjania, 12-1 FORTUNE'S POLLY, 12-1 Nohalmudum, 12-1 Touch Of Speed, 12-1 Gilt Bronze.

1986: AGATHIST 10-11 D Brown (9-1) M Rinal 7 ran

TOUCH OF SPEED (10-10) 2nd stayed on well after touch at 22½ lb when beaten 2½ by Sea Island (10-12) at Worcester (2m, 2004, good, Dec 7, 1986).

NEOCHEREA (9-13) 2nd stayed on under pressure beaten 3½ by Highland Beauty (10-7) with MANJANIA (10-11) 4th beaten 4½ at Farnham (2m, 2766, good, Dec 8, 1986).

Selection: TOUCH OF SPEED

1.15 SNOW WHITE NOVICES CHASE (2,475: 2m) (4 runners)

201	00-221 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
202	01-202 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
203	02-203 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
204	03-204 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
205	04-205 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
206	05-206 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
207	06-207 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
208	07-208 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
209	08-209 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
210	09-210 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
211	10-211 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
212	11-212 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
213	12-213 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
214	13-214 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
215	14-215 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
216	15-216 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
217	16-217 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
218	17-218 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
219	18-219 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
220	19-220 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82
221	20-221 PRIDEN BOY 15 (4) (Adm) C Brown 11-0	R Damsay	82

BETTING: 2-1 PRIDEN BOY, 5-1 Touch Of Speed, 10-1 Nohalmudum, 10-1 Touch Of Speed, 12-1 Gilt Bronze.

1986: STANLEY 6-11 D Brown (10-3) M Rinal 7 ran

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Arsenal and Forest show little to threaten the leaders

W

WEEKEND FOOTBALL

RESULTS AND TABLES

Climbing above their opponents: Foster illustrates the fact, outjumping Quinn at Highbury

There was a time when the sloping Manor Ground was a minefield for any unwitting

Hucker staked his claim when he advanced into a one-on-one situation in which he invariably excels to thwart Nicol superbly with his legs after two other Oxford defenders had failed miserably.

Weaknesses in Liverpool stand out probably more than

MARCH 19.
OXFORD UNITED: P Hucker, D Bardsley, J Dreyer, G Shelton, R Hill (sub: R Mustoe), T Cason, T Hebbard, W Whitehouse, D Saunders, L Phillips, P Rhoades-Brown.
LIVERPOOL: B Grabbelaar, G Gillespie, B Venison, S Nicol, R Whelan, A Hansen, P Beardley, J Aldridge, R Houghton, J Barnes(sub: C Johnston), S McMahon (sub: N Spackman).
 Referee: A J Ashby

Newcastle yesterday signed Perry Digweed, the Brighton goalkeeper, on a month's loan as cover for Gary Kelly. The club's first-choice goalkeeper, Martin Thomas, has been out of the side since October after dislocating his shoulder, and has another operation today. He will be out of action until March.

● The Hibernian midfielder, Doug Bell, signed for the second division strugglers, Shrewsbury Town, in a £40,000 deal on Christmas Eve.

W

WEEKEND FOOTBALL

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WEEKEND FOOTBALL

RESULTS AND TABLES

As he pointed out, Tottenham may have been beset by injuries to several key players but basic errors in crucial positions cannot be tolerated for long under the new regime.

SOUTHAMPTON: J. Burridge; G. Foran; D. Southern; J. Case; K. Moore; K. Bond; A. Townsend; G. Cockfield; C. Clarke; G. Hargreaves.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: A. Parks; C. Hughes; M. Thomas; V. Samways; G. Parfitt; G. Stevens; P. Allen; S. Hooga; C. Widdie; O. Arkins; P. Moran.

[illegible]

